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THE
AMERICAN READER,

CONSISTING OF
Familiar, Instructive, and Entertaining
STORIES.

SELECTED FOR THE USE OF SCHOOLS.

BY HERMAN DAGGETT, A. M.

" 'Tis our design,
" Instruction with amusement to combine."

STEREOTYPED BY E. AND J. COLLINS, N. YORK.

POUGHKEEPSIE,
PUBLISHED BY PARACLETE POTTER,

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P. & S. Potter, Printers.

1818.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW-YORK;

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L. S.

"The American Reader, consisting of Familiar, Instructive, and Entertaining Stories. Selected for the use of Schools. By Herman Daggett, A. M.

"*'Tis our design,*
"Instruction with amusement to combine."
"Third Edition."

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* **THERON RUDD, Clerk**
of the Southern District of New-York.

PREFACE.

SUCH a book as the one which is now offered the public, under the title of "THE AMERICAN READER," is in the opinion of the compiler, greatly needed in our schools.

It was his original design to have comprised the work in two parts; adapting the *first* to the capacities of those children, who, by a thorough knowledge of their Spelling Book, were prepared to make their first attempts at reading without spelling. But after examining a small publication entitled "THE CHILD'S INSTRUCTOR," which is already considerably used in schools, he finds it so well adapted to readers of the above description, that he takes the liberty to recommend it as a suitable introduction to the present work.

It is obvious that a book, designed to facilitate the art of reading, should be calculated to engage the attention of children, as much as possible. To this end it should be composed of pieces which are adapted to their understandings, and interesting to their imaginations. Children with such a book in their hands, will advance in the art of reading, more in *one* week, than they otherwise would in *two*; and, with respect to most children, I might say, in *ten*. Thus the time and expense of their education would be greatly lessened.

But this is not all. With such a book, they will learn to read more *properly* as well as more *easily*. The principal reason why children contract a disagreeable and unmeaning pronunciation (which they often retain through life) is because reading is made too much, a disagreeable

and unmeaning business to them. Let a *child* his first attempts to read without spelling, *be* some easy, interesting story given to him, *composed* of familiar expressions, such as he *understands*, and he will, without any instruction, *with* a natural tone of voice, and with the *perfect* propriety. And he will always continue to do so, unless his pronunciation becomes vitiated by example, or by his being put upon an improper course of reading.

The American Reader is composed of pieces which are moral and instructive, as well as entertaining; and it is presented to the public with a full confidence, that if admitted into general use it will very greatly contribute to the important object, which it is designed to promote.

After children are able to read with facility this book, they will be prepared to enter upon reading of a higher kind; as The American Preceptor, Elements of Useful Knowledge, The English Reader, &c. from which no extracts have been made for the present work, it being designed as a *step* to them, to be used by a low class of readers.

It is important that books in a school, which are used by the same class of readers, should be exactly alike. The frequent alterations which have been made in almost all school books, both as to matter and form, is a considerable evil. It is designed, therefore, that future editions of this work shall exactly correspond with the present.

It is by no means the wish of the editor, that *the Bible* should be excluded from our schools. *It is proper* that children should commence re-

PREFACE.

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e New-Testament, at least once a day,
me time that they begin this book. To
e Bible the only book which is read in
it is conceived, would be very ill-judged,
oper.

be found by comparison, that the fol-
work is not a *mere* compilation ; but that
able pains have been taken to alter, re-
or enlarge the several pieces, for the
of adapting them to the design of the
r.

those who are employed in the honour-
important, and difficult task of rearing
er mind ; to all parents and guardians of
und to all *children* who desire to improve
edge and virtue ; this book is humbly
l, by their well-wisher,

HERMAN DAGGETT.

okhaven, (L. I.)



THE AMERICAN READER.

THE USEFUL DISAPPOINTMENT.

ONE fine morning, in the month of June, Ambrose prepared to set out with his father on a party of pleasure, which for a fortnight before had taken up all his thoughts. He had risen, contrary to his custom, very early, in order to hasten the preparations for his jaunt. However, just as he thought he had reached the object of his wishes, the sky darkened all at once, the clouds grew thick, and a violent wind bent down the trees, and raised up a tempest of dust.

2. Ambrose went down every moment into the garden to observe the appearance of the sky; he then skipped up the stairs, three at a time, to examine the barometer; but the sky and the barometer conspired against him. For all this, he did not scruple to give his father good hopes, and to assure him that these unfavourable appearances would disperse in a moment; that presently it would be the finest weather in the world; and he concluded that they ought to set out directly to have the benefit of it.

3. Mr. Powell, who did not repose a blind confidence in his son's prognostics, thought it more prudent to wait a little. Just then th

clouds burst and discharged a heavy rain. Ambrose in the bitterness of pointment, began to cry, and obstinately refused all consolation.

4. The rain continued until three in the afternoon. At length, the clouds parted, the sun resumed his lustre, the sky cleared, and all nature breathed the fresh air of Spring. Ambrose recovered his good spirits by degrees, in proportion as the sky cleared. His father took him out a little way from the city, to enjoy the calmness of the air, the singing of the birds, the lively verdure of the fields, and the fresh breeze that breathed all around him. He found peace and satisfaction completely restored.

5. Do you not observe, said his father, the pleasing change now produced in the world? Recollect how dull every thing appeared to us; the ground parched by long drought; the flowers faded and their languid heads; in a word all seemed to be at a stand. To what can we attribute the sudden revival of nature? To the rain that has fallen to day, said Ambrose.

6. The injustice of his complaint, and the folly of his behaviour, struck him. He then pronounced these words. His father, seeing him to blush, judged that his reflections would be sufficient to teach him better time, to sacrifice, without reluctance, his pleasure to the general advantage of the kind.

THE LAMB.

1. Little Flora, the daughter of a poor countryman, was sitting one morning by the side of the road, holding in her lap a porringer of milk for her breakfast, in which she sopped a few slices of coarse brown bread. Just then a farmer was passing the road, who had in his cart about a score of lambs which he was going to sell at the market.

2. These poor creatures, crowded one upon the other, with their feet tied together, and their heads hanging down, filled the air with plaintive bleatings, which pierced the heart of Flora, but were heard by the farmer with an air of unconcern.

3. When he came opposite to the little country girl, he threw down before her a lamb, which he was carrying across his shoulders. There, my girl, said he, is a good for nothing creature that has just died and made me five shillings the poorer. Take it, if you will, and make a stew of it.

4. Flora quitted her breakfast, laid down her porringer and bread, and taking up the lamb, began to examine it with looks of compassion. But, said she, immediately, why should I pity you? To-day, or to-morrow, they would have run a great knife through your throat, while you now have nothing more to fear.

5. While she was speaking thus, the lamb revived by the warmth of her arms, opened its eyes, made a slight motion, and cried *baa faintly, as if it was calling for its mother.*

6. It would be difficult to express the girl's joy. She covers the lamb with her apron, bends her breast down towards her lap to it the more, and blows with all her force into its mouth.—She felt the poor animal stir by degrees, and at each of its motions she felt her own heart throb.

7. Encouraged by this first success, she crumbles some soft bread into her porringer and taking it up in her fingers, with some difficulty forced it between its teeth, which were shut fast.

8. The lamb, which was dying only through hunger and cold, felt itself a little strengthened by this treatment. It began to stretch its limbs, to shake its head, and to prick up its ears. It had soon strength enough to support itself upon its legs and then went off its own accord to Flora's porringer, who smiled to see it drink up her breakfast. In short, before a quarter of an hour was past, it actually began to jump and play its little gambols around its pre-server.

9. Flora, transported with joy, took it up in her arms, and running to the cottage, showed it to her mother. Baba (for so she named it) became from that moment the object of all her cares. She shared with it the little bread which was given her for her meals, and would not have exchanged it for the largest flock in the neighbourhood.

10. Baba was so gratefully sensible of her fondness, that she never quitted Flora a single step: she would come and eat out of her hand.

would frisk around her, and whenever she was obliged to go out without her, would bleat most pitifully.

11. This was not the only recompense with which Providence repaid Flora's benevolence. Baba brought forth young lambs, and these brought forth others, in their turn : so that in a few years, Flora had a pretty flock, that nourished all the family with their milk, and clothed them with their wool.

WILLIAM AND THOMAS.

1. In a village, at a small distance from the metropolis, lived a wealthy farmer, who had two sons, William and Thomas, of whom the former was exactly a year older than the latter. On the day that the second was born, the farmer set in his orchard two young apple trees of an equal size, on which he had bestowed the same care and cultivation, and they thrived so much alike, that it was a difficult matter to say which claimed the preference.

2. As soon as the children were capable of using garden implements, their father took them on a fine day, early in the spring, to see the two trees he had reared for them, and which he had called after their names. William and Thomas having much admired the beauty of these trees, now filled with blossoms, their father told them that he made a present of them in good condition, and that they would

continue to thrive or decay, in propor labour or neglect they received.

3. Thomas, though the younger, called all his attention to the improvement of his tree, by clearing it of insects as soon as he perceived them, and propping up the stem so that it might grow perfectly upright. He dug round it to loosen the earth, that the root might receive nourishment from the warmth of the sun, and the moisture of the dews. No mother nurse her child more tenderly in its infancy than Thomas did his tree.

4. His brother William, however, followed a very different conduct; for he loitered away his time in the most idle and mischievous manner, one of his principal amusements being to throw stones at people as they passed.

5. He kept company with all the idle fellows in the neighbourhood, with whom he was always fighting, and was seldom without a black and blue or a broken shin.

6. His poor tree was neglected, and never thought of, till one day in the autumn, by chance, seeing his brother's tree loaded with the finest apples, and almost ready to break down with the weight, he ran to his own tree, not doubting but he should find it in the same pleasing condition. But great indeed was his disappointment and surprize, when, finding the tree loaded with excellent fruit, he beheld nothing but a few withered branches covered with moss.

7. He instantly went to his father and *complained of his giving him a tree that*

less and barren, whilst his brother's was laden with fruit. He therefore thought that his brother should, at least, give him one half of his apples.

8. His father told him that it was by no means reasonable, that the industrious should give up part of their labour to feed the idle. "If your tree (said he) has produced you nothing, it is but a just reward of your indolence, whilst you see what the industry of your brother has gained him.

9. "Your tree was equally thrifty and grew in the same soil; but you paid no attention to the culture of it. Your brother suffered no visible insect to remain on his tree; but you neglected that caution, and left them to eat up the very buds.

10. "As I cannot bear to see even plants perish through neglect, I must now take this tree from you, and give it to your brother, whose care and attention may possibly restore it to its former vigour. The fruit which it shall produce will then be his property, and you must no longer consider yourself as having any right to it.

11. "However, you may go to my nursery, and there chuse any other which you may like, and try what you can do with it; but if you neglect to take proper care of it, I shall also take that from you, and give it to your brother, as a reward for his superior industry and attention."

12. This had the desired effect on William, who clearly perceived the justice and propriety of what his father had said to him, and instantly

went to the nursery, and chose the
ishing apple tree he could there meet

13. When the proper season came
assisted him in transplanting it, an
him in what manner to proceed in
tion of it ; and William now made t
of his time and of the instructions w
ceived from his brother.

14. He left off all his mischief
forsook the company of idle boys, a
self cheerfully to work, and in a fe
received the reward of his labours, h
being loaded with fruit.

15. From this happy change in
he derived the advantage, not only
ing himself with a plentiful crop o
also of getting rid of bad and pern
its. His father was so perfectly s
his reformation, that the following
gave him and his brother both trees
sufficient for a small orchard, the
which they shared equally between

MISCHIEF ITS OWN PUNISH

1. Mr. Stevenson and his little s
as they were one fine day walking
together, passed by the side of a gard
they saw a beautiful pear tree loaded

2. Richard cast a longing eye at it
plained to his papa, that he was very

THE AMERICAN READER.

Mr. Stevenson's saying that he was very d also, but that they must bear it with patience till they got home, Richard pointed to the pear tree, and begged his papa to let him go and get one; for as the hedge was not very thick, he said he could easily get through without being seen by any one.

3. Richard's father reminded him that the garden and fruit were private property, and to take any thing from thence, without permission was no better than robbery.

4. He allowed, that there might be a possibility of getting into the garden, without being seen by the owner of it; but such a wicked deed could not be concealed from him, who sees every action of our lives, and who penetrates into the very secrets of our hearts; and that is God.

5. His son shook his head, and said he was sensible of his error, and would no more think of committing a robbery. He recollected that he had been told the same thing before, but he had then forgotten it.

6. At this instant a man started up from behind the hedge, which had before concealed him from their sight. This was an old man, the owner of the garden, who had heard everything which had passed between Mr. Stevenson and his son.

7. "Be thankful to God my child, (said the man) that your father prevented your getting into my garden, with a view to take away fruit. You little thought, that at the foot of each tree is placed a trap to catch thieves."

which you could not have escaped, and *which* might have lamed you for the rest of *your* *life*. I am, however, happy to find that you so *readily* listened to the first admonition of your *father* and showed such a fear of offending God.

8. "As you have behaved in so just and *sensible* a manner, you shall now, without any *danger* of trouble, partake of the fruit of my garden." He then went to the finest pear tree gave it a shake, and brought down near a *hatful* of fruit, which he immediately gave to Richard.

9. This civil old man could not be prevailed on to accept of any thing in return, though Mr. Stevenson pulled out his purse for that purpose. "I am sufficiently satisfied, Sir, (said he) in thus obliging your son; and were I to accept any thing, that satisfaction would be lost."

10. Mr. Stevenson thanked him very kindly, and having shaken hands over the hedge, they parted, Richard, at the same time taking leave of the old man very politely.

11. Little Richard, having finished several of the pears, began to find himself at leisure to talk to his papa. "This is a very good old man, (said he :) but would God have punished me, if I had taken these pears without his leave?"

12. "He certainly would, (replied Mr. Stevenson,) for he never fails, either in this world, or the next, to reward good actions, and to chastise those who commit evil."

13. "The good old man fully explained to

you this matter, in telling you of the traps laid for thieves, into which you must inevitably have fallen, had you entered his garden in a clandestine manner.

14. "God orders every thing that passes upon earth, and directs events so as frequently to reward good people for virtuous actions, and to punish the wicked for their crimes in the present state.

15. "In order to make this more clear to you, I will relate an affair, which happened when I was a boy, and which I shall never forget." Richard seemed very attentive to his father, and having said that he should be very glad to hear his story, Mr. Stevenson thus proceeded :

16. When I lived with my father, and was about your age, we had two neighbours, one on each side of us, and their names were Davis and Johnson.

17. Mr. Davis had a son named William, and Mr. Johnson had one of the name of Harry. Our gardens were at that time, separated only by quickset hedges, so that it was easy to see into each other's grounds.

18. It was too often the practice with William when he found himself alone in his father's garden, to take a pleasure in throwing stones over the hedges, without paying the least regard to the mischief they might do.

19. Mr. Davis had frequently caught him at this dangerous sport, and never failed severely to reprimand him for it, and to threaten him with severe punishment if he did not desist.

20. But this child, unhappily, either not, or would not take the trouble to see that we should not do amiss, even when alone, for reasons which I have already explained to you. His father being one day gone and therefore thinking that nobody could find him, or bring him to punishment, he filled his pockets with stones, and then began to throw them about at random.

21. Mr. Johnson, happened to be in the garden, at the same time, and his son Harry saw him. This boy was of much the same disposition as William, thinking there was no harm in doing mischief, provided he was not caught.

22. His father had a gun charged, and had just brought into the garden in order to shoot the birds, that made sad havoc among the berries, and was sitting in the summer-house to watch them. At this instant a servant came to acquaint him, that a strange gentleman desired to speak with him, and was waiting in the parlour.

23. He therefore put down the gun, and went to the summer-house, and strictly ordered Harry not to touch it; but he was no sooner gone, than this naughty boy said to himself that he could see no harm in playing with the gun, and therefore took it up, and put it on his shoulder, and endeavoured to act like a soldier.

24. The muzzle of the gun happened to be pointed towards Mr. Davis's garden, as he was in the midst of his military

stone thrown by William hit him directly on the side of his eyes.

25. The fright and pain together made Harry drop the gun, which went off, and in a moment the gardens resounded with the most dismal shrieks and lamentations.

26. Harry had received a blow in the eye with the stone, and the whole charge of the gun had entered William's leg. The sad consequences of which were, the one lost his eye, and the other leg.

27. Richard could not help pitying poor William and Harry for their terrible misfortune, and Mr. Stevenson did not blame his son for his temperance.

28. "It is true, (said he) they were much to be pitied, and their parents still more, for having such vicious and disobedient children. Yet it is probable, if God had not early punished these boys, they might have continued their mischievous practices, as often as they found themselves alone; but by this misfortune they learned that God could find ways to punish any wickedness, which was done in secret.

29. "This had the desired effect, as both of them ever after left off all kinds of mischief, and became wise and prudent young men."

30. Richard was very much struck with this story, and said he hoped he should never lose either a leg or an eye, by such imprudent conduct. This interesting conversation was interrupted by their arrival at their own house, when Richard hastened to find his brothers and

sisters, to make them a present of some fine pears, and to tell them the adventures of his walk, and the history of William and Mary.



**CLEOPATRA, OR THE REFORMED
LITTLE TYRANT.**

1. A pert little hussy, whose name was Cleopatra, was continually teasing and commanding her poor brother. "So you will not do what I bid you, Mr. Obstinacy ! (she would often say to him,) Come, come, sir, obey, or it shall be much worse for you."

2. If Cleopatra's word might be taken, her brother did every thing wrong, but on the contrary, whatever she thought of doing, was her master-piece of reason and sound sense. Whenever he proposed any kind of diversion, she was sure to call it dull and insipid, but it often happened that she herself would, the next day recommend the same thing ; and having forgotten what she had said of it before, considered it as the most lively and entertaining.

3. Her brother was obliged to submit to all her unaccountable whims and fancies, or endure the most disagreeable lectures, which a little female tongue could utter. If ever he presumed to be so hardy as to reason with her on her strange conduct, instant destruction *his play things* was the inevitable consequence.

4. Her parents with regret saw this strange and tyrannical disposition of their daughter, and in vain did every thing they could think of to break her of it. Her mother, in particular, continually reminded her that such children never procured the esteem of others ; and that a girl, who set up her own opinion against that of every one else, would soon become intolerable and insupportable to all her acquaintance.

5. This prudent advice, however, made no impression on her stubborn heart ; and her brother, wearied out by her caprice and tyranny, began to have very little affection for her.

6. It one day happened that a gentleman of a free and open temper dined at their house. He could not help observing, with what a haughty air she treated her poor brother, and, indeed, every other person in the room.

7. At first the rules of politeness kept him from saying any thing ; but at last, tired out with her impertinence, he began addressing his discourse to her mamma, in the following manner.

8. " I was lately in France, and as I was fond of being present at the soldiers' exercise, I used to go as often as I could, to see their manoeuvres on the parade, nearly in the same manner as they do in this country.

9. " Among the soldiers, there were many I observed with whiskers, which gave them a very fierce and soldier-like look. Now, had I a child like your Cleopatra, I would instantly give her a soldier's uniform, and put on her a pair of *whiskers*, when she might, with rather more

propriety, than at present, act the part of
 manner."

10. Cleopatra heard this, and stood
 with confusion ! She could not help blush
 was unable to conceal her tears. However
 reproach perfectly reformed her, and she be
 fully sensible of the impropriety of a tyrann
 temper.

11. It has been observed, that to be sens
 of our errors, is half the work of reformati
 So it happened with Cleopatra, who, with the
 assistance of her mother's prudent counsels, beca
 a modest and amiable girl.

12. Her reformation was a great credit to h
 and it is much to be wished, that all young
 dies, who take no pains to conquer their p
 sions, would at least imitate Cleopatra, and w
 to avoid being told, or having it thought, tha
 soldier's dress, and a pair of whiskers wou
 better become them, than decent female app
 rel.

13. Had Cleopatra attended to the advice
 her parents, and not have imagined that greatn
 consisted in impertinence, she would have be
 happy much sooner than she was.

14. And now I will tell you how another lit
 girl, who had contracted bad habits, was cured
 a looking-glass.

15. There was a little stubborn dame,
 Whom no authority could tame ;
 Restive, by long indulgence grown,
 No will she minded but her own :

Th...

- At trifles oft she'd scold and fret,
Then in a corner take her seat,
And, sourly moping all the day,
Disdain alike to work or play.
16. Papa all softer arts had try'd,
And sharper remedies applied ;
But both were vain, for every course
He took, still made her worse and worse.
17. Mamma observ'd this pouting lass
By stealth retiring to the glass ;
On this a deep design she laid,
To cure the humor of the maid ;
Contriving, like a prudent mother,
To make one folly mend another.
18. Upon the wall, against the seat,
Which Cleo us'd for her retreat,
Whene'er by accident offended,
A looking-glass was straight suspended,
That it might show her how deform'd
She look'd, and frightful, when she storm'd ;
And warn her, as she priz'd her beauty,
To bend her humour to her duty.
19. All this the looking-glass achiev'd
Its threats were minded and believ'd,
The maid, who spurn'd at all advice,
Grew tame and gentle in a trice :
So when all other means had fail'd,
The silent monitor prevail'd.
-

CRAZY SAMUEL.

1. In the city of Bristol lived a crazy person
whose name was Samuel Whenever he went

out he always put three or four wigs on at once, and as many muffs upon each arm.

2. Though he had unfortunately losses, yet he was not mischievous, unless the boys played tricks with him, and put him to passion.

3. Whenever he appeared in the street the idle boys would surround him, crying, "Samuel! Samuel! how do you sell your muffs?" Some boys were of mischievous dispositions as to throw dirt at him.

4. Though the unfortunate man generally bore all this treatment very quietly, yet he sometimes turned about in his own defence, and threw among the rabble that followed him anything that came in his way.

5. A contest of this nature happened near the house of Mr. Denton, who hearing the noise in the street, went to the window, and with regret, saw his son Joseph concerned in it. Displeased at the sight, he shut down the shutters and went into another room.

6. When they were at dinner, Mr. Denton asked his son, who the man was, with whom the other boys in the street, seemed so pleasantly engaged. Joseph said it was a man, whom they called Samuel.

7. On his father's asking him what occasioned that misfortune, he replied, that it was the consequence of the loss of a leg by an unjust law-suit.

8. "Had this man been known to

Mr. Denton) at the time when he was cheated out of his estate ; and had he told you that he had just lost a large inheritance, which he had long peaceably enjoyed ; that all his property was expended in supporting the cause, and that he had now nothing upon earth left ; do you think you should have laughed at this poor man ?”

9. Joseph with some confusion replied, that he certainly should not have been so wicked as to laugh at the misfortunes of any man ; but should rather endeavour to comfort him.

10. “ This man, (said Mr. Denton) is more to be pitied now than he was then, since to the loss of his fortune is added the loss of his senses also ; and yet you have this day been throwing stones at this poor man, and otherwise insulting him, who never gave you any cause.”

11. Joseph seemed very sorry for what he had done, asked his Papa's pardon, and promised not only never to do the like again, but to prevent others, as much as lay in his power, from committing the same crime.

12. His father told him, that as to his forgiveness, he freely granted it, but that there was no other besides him, whose forgiveness was more necessary. Little Joseph, thinking that his father meant poor Samuel, said that he would ask for forgiveness too ; but Mr. Denton explained the matter to him.

13. “ Had Samuel retained his senses (said he) it would be certainly just, that you should ask his pardon ; but as his disordered mind

will not permit him to receive :
would be useless to attempt to m

14. "It is not Samuel, but
have offended. You have not
sion to poor Samuel, but by yo
insults, have added to his mis
you think God will be pleased
duct?"

15. Joseph now plainly perce
had offended, and therefore prom
don of God in his prayers. He ke
not only forebore troubling Sam
weeks afterwards, but endeavour
all his companions from doing the

16. The resolutions of young
ever, are not always to be depe
happened with little Joseph,
the promises he had made, one
to mix with the rabble of boys,
lowing and hooting, and playing
tricks with the unfortunate Sam
more he mixed among them the
himself, and at last became as b
of them.

17. Samuel's patience, howe
length tired out by the rude be
wicked boys that pursued him
turned about, and picking up
threw it at little Joseph with suc
it grazed his cheek, and almost c
ear.

18. Poor Joseph, on feeling
sioned by the blow, and finding t
ling down his cheek at a great
roaring most terribly. Mr. D

showed him no pity, telling him it was the just judgment of God for his wickedness.

19. Joseph attempted to justify himself by saying, that he was not the only one who was guilty, and therefore ought not to be the only one that was punished. His father replied that as he knew better than the other boys, his crime was the greater.

20. It is indeed but justice, that a child who knows the commands of God and his parents, should be doubly punished, whenever he so far forgets his duty as to run headlong into wickedness.

21. Remember this my young readers, and instead of adding to the afflictions of others, do all that you can to alleviate them, and God will then undoubtedly have compassion on you, whenever your wants and distresses shall require his assistance.



ARTHUR AND ADRIAN; OR TWO HEADS BETTER THAN ONE.

1. Adrian had frequently heard his father say, that children have but little knowledge, with respect to what is most proper for them; and that the greatest proof they could give of their wisdom, would be in following the advice of people, who have more age and experience than themselves. But this was a kind of doctrine Adrian did not understand, or at least would not, and therefore it is no wonder that he forgot it.

2. This wise and good father and his brother Arthur a conveyed ground in order that each might have a little garden, and display his knowledge in the cultivation of it.

3. They had also leave to sow what they should think proper, and to cut out of the tree they liked out of their father's their own.

4. Arthur remembered those words of his father, which his brother Adrian had heard, and therefore went to consult Rufus. "Pray tell me (said he) what season to sow in my garden, and what I am to set about my business?"

5. The gardener hereupon gave him roots and seeds such as were most proper for that season. Arthur instantly ran, and came to the ground, and Rufus, very willingly assisted him in the work, but made him do with many things very necessary.

6. Adrian, on the other hand, did not take his father's words to his shoulders at his brother's instance, but he was taking much more pains than he needed. Rufus not knowing his disposition, did him likewise his assistance and in a manner he refused it in a manner that displayed his vanity and ignorance.

7. He then went into his father's garden, and took from thence a quantity of what he pleased. He immediately transplanted into his garden, and the gardener took no notice of him, but did as he pleased.

8. When Adrian visited his garden, the next morning, all the flowers which he had planted, hung their heads, like so many mourners, and, as he plainly saw, were in a dying state. He replaced them with others, from his father's garden ; but, on visiting them the next morning, he found them perishing like the former.

9. This was a matter of great vexation to Adrian, who consequently soon became disgusted with this kind of business, and gave it up as an unprofitable gain. Hence his piece of ground soon became a wilderness of weeds and thistles.

10. As he was looking into his brother's garden about the middle of summer, he saw something of a red colour hanging near the ground, which, on examination, he found to be strawberries of a delicious flavour. "Ah ! (said he) I should have planted strawberries in my garden."

11. Some time afterwards as he was walking again in his brother's garden, he saw little berries of a milk white colour, which hung down in clusters from the branches of a bush. Upon examination, he found they were currants, which even the sight of was a feast. "Ah ! (said he) I should have planted currants in my garden."

12. The gardener then observed to him that it was his own fault that his garden was not as productive as his brother's.—"Never for the future, (said Rufus,) despise the instruction and assistance of any one, since you will find by experience, that *two heads are better than one.*"

*DISSIPATION THE CERTAIN
FATE.*

1. A young man whose name was was a bad contriver, but an excellent Nothing ran in his head so much ; become a master, but he had not n to gratify that wish.

2. A merchant, however, who acquainted with his industry, lent him pounds, in order that he might op proper manner. It will from her follow that Humphries thought him happiest men in the world. He warehouse already filled with goods. how many customers would crowd and what would be his profits there

3. In the midst of these extravagant fancy, he perceived an alehouse. (he on entering it,) I will indulge spending one six-pence of this money

4. He hesitated, however, some moments, about calling for punch, w favourite liquor, as his conscience him, that his time for enjoyment o some distance, and not till he had p the money he had borrowed ; that be honest in him, at present, to spe of that money but in absolute neces

5. With these just ideas, he was ing the alehouse ; but thinking, hund, that if he spent a six-pence c be should still have an hundred

that six-pence ; that such a sum was fully sufficient to set him up in trade ; and that a single half hour's industry would amply make amends for such a trifling pleasure ; he turned back and called for his punch.

6. The first glass banished all his former qualms, little thinking, that such a conduct would, by insensible degrees, open the way to ruin. The next day he recollected the pleasures of the former glass, and found it easy to reconcile his conscience to the spending of another six-pence. He knew he should still have an hundred pounds left all but one shilling.

7. The love of liquor had, at last, completely conquered him, and every succeeding day he constantly returned to his favorite alehouse, and gradually increased his quantity, till he spent two shillings and six-pence, at each sitting. Here he seemed to make a stand, and every time he went, he consoled himself with saying, that he was spending only half a crown, and that he need not fear but that he should have enough to carry on his trade.

8. By this delusive way of reasoning, he silenced the prudent whispers of conscience, which would sometimes, in spite even of liquor, break in upon him, and remind him, that the proper use of money consisted in prudently applying every part of it to advantageous purposes.

9. Thus you see how the human mind is led into destructive extravagances. Industry had no longer any charms to allure him, being blindly persuaded, that the money he had borrow

would prove an inexhaustible resource his extravagance.

10. He was, however, at last convinced his conviction suddenly fell upon him like the thunder, that he could not recover from the effects of his dissipation, and that his generous factor would have little inclination to bestow the hundred pounds to a man, who had so fully abused his kindness in the first instance.

11. Entirely overcome with shame and confusion, he gave himself up to hard labour, which only served to accelerate his ruin. At last the fatal moment arrived, when disgusted with the thought of industry, and an object of horror to himself, life grew insupportable, and scenes of poverty, desolation and remorse, presented themselves to his view.

12. Overtaken by despair he fled from his country, and joined a gang of smugglers, who at that time infested every town and village on the coast. Heaven, however, did not permit such iniquities to have a long reign; a merciful and graceful death soon put a period to the existence of this unhappy wretch.

13. Alas! had he listened to the first voice of reason, and been wrought upon by the reproaches of his conscience, he might have been easy and happy in his situation, and he might have comfortably enjoyed the repose of a reprieve, instead of coming to that deplorable end which is the certain reward of vice and

THE COVETOUS BOY.

1. Young Samuel was the only son of a capital merchant, and was tenderly beloved by his father. He had many agreeable qualities, his countenance was pleasing, and his friends would have been very fond of him, if he had not shown, on every occasion, a covetous propensity, that eclipsed all his accomplishments.

2. This disposition made him wish for every thing which he saw others possessed of, and even carried him to so great a length, that he could not share among his playmates any thing he had, or even let them see it.

3. It was with little Samuel, as it generally is with every body else, that he lost more than he gained by his avarice. If any body gave him any sweetmeats, he would get into some private corner of the house, and there swallow them, for fear some of his acquaintances should get a part of them.

4. His father, in order to cure him of this greedy disposition, used while he was feasting privately, to give a double portion to his companions. He perceived this, and therefore left off hiding himself; but he no sooner fixed his eyes on any nicety, than he appeared ready to devour it at once, and pursued the hand of those that held it, as a vulture does its prey.

5. If Samuel had a pleasing toy of any kind, he would never show it, but conceal himself in the enjoyment of it, without ever being happy.

6. If he had any sort of fruit, he would not

share it with his playmates, but devoured it, even refusing to impart any of it to his friend. Consequently, none of his playmates would ever give him a part of what he wanted, and he seemed always desirous of solitary company.

7. It one day happened, that a little boy served him with an apple in his hand. Suddenly, by surprise, a knock on the elbow made him let the apple fall. He stooped and picked it up hastily, and in order to save himself on the boy, set off to catch him. In running, he fell into a hog-pond, and so to have been suffocated in the filth.

8. He exerted all his power to get out, but to no effect. He endeavoured also, but without succeeding, to prevail on his playmates to hold on to his hand and help him out. When, in assisting him, they laughed at his distress, he joyfully danced about the pond.

9. They told him to ask the assistance of those, to whom he had ever done the wrong : but among all his playmates, not one whose help he could demand. At last, one of the boys who was kind to him, came forward, and gave him a hand when he safely got out.

10. Samuel shook off the mud as best he could, and then to show his gratitude to the boy who had assisted him, he bit a quarter of the apple, which had caused his fall, and gave it to him, which he had never let go of, and so he accepted of it.

11. But the boy disgusted with

gift, took the morsel and flung it in his face ; and this served as a signal for all the boys to hoot at him. Thus they pursued Samuel quite home, hooting at him all the way he went.

12. This was the first time he had ever been hooted at, and as he did not want for feeling, it threw him into the depth of thought. He kept out of his father's presence, and sought to be alone, for several days.

13. During this time, he reasoned with himself on the cause that could produce such treatment from his play-fellows. " For what reason, (said he to himself,) could my little neighbour, who kindly lent me his hand to get out of the pond, throw the apple in my face, and set all the boys to hooting me ? Why has he so many good friends, while I have not a single one ?

14. On comparing the good boy's behaviour with his own, he soon discovered the reason. To become sensible of our errors is half the work of reformation. He recollected, that he had observed his friend to be always ready to help every one : that whenever he had any fruit, confectionary, or the like, he seemed to feel more pleasure in sharing it with his companions, than in eating it himself ; and had no kind of amusement, in which he did not wish every one to bear a part.

15. On this short review of circumstances, he plainly perceived wherein lay the difference between himself and this little good boy. He at last resolved to imitate him : and the next day, *filling his pockets with fruit, he ran up to every boy he met, and gave him a part of it : but he*

could not, on a sudden, wholly give must have a little in his pocket to private.

16. But though it was evident not yet completely conquered his was not a little pleased with the made, since his companions were part, more generous to him.

17. They also showed themselves satisfied with his company, and a partner, in all their little pastimes ed with him whatever they happened and he always went home pleased

18. Soon after, he made a progress in conquering his selfishness he pulled out of his pocket everything he had, and divided it into as many there were mouths to eat it, receiving equal part for himself.

19. Indeed, it was the general boys, that his own share was the pursuing this conduct, he soon acquired habit, and became liberal to nothing to give in return.

20. He consequently acquired esteem of his companions, who loved him than they ran to meet his countenances, and made his pleasure. Thus instead of being miserable through avarice, he became very practice of generosity.

21. His father was exceedingly *this change*, and tenderly embracing *missing to refuse him nothing*

might add to his pleasure and delight. Samuel hereby learned the value of a generous and benevolent disposition ; and when he grew up, he became a very respectable and useful man, and was honoured and beloved by all his acquaintance.

THE SNOW.

1. After many deceitful promises of its return, spring at length arrived. A gentle breeze warmed the air. The snow was seen to melt, the fields to resume their verdure, and the flowers to bud forth. The singing of birds was heard on every side.

2. Little Louisa had heard the first songs of the black-bird and the linnet, and had gathered some of the earliest violets. But the weather changed once more. There arose suddenly a violent north wind, that whistled through the groves, and covered the fields with snow.

3. Little Louisa went to bed that night shivering with cold, and blessed God for having given her so comfortable a shelter from the inclemency of the air. Ah ! what a sight ! when she arose the next morning. Every thing was perfectly white. There had fallen during the night, so great a quantity of snow, that it was knee deep in the roads.

4. This made Louisa very dull. The little birds appeared still more so. The ground being every where covered to a great depth, they

were not able to find the least grain or appease their hunger.

5. All the feathered inhabitants of the town took refuge in the towns and villages, seeking relief from man. Numerous flights of sparrows, linnets, chaffinches, and larks, alighted in the streets and court-yards of houses, and searched with their claws and bills, in every heap of rubbish, to find, if possible, some nourishment.

6. There came near fifty of these gulls to the yard of the house where Louisa lived. She saw them, and returned quite afflicted to her father's chamber.

7. What is the matter, my dear? Ah! Papa, answered she, there they are in the yard. The poor little birds that were so sweetly only two days ago. They seem almost frozen and starved, and to ask for something to eat.

8. Will you give them a little corn? That will be the greatest pleasure, said the father. He went to the granary, which was on the other side of the way. He ran to get a few handfuls of corn and he returned, and came immediately back to scatter it in the yard.

9. The little birds approached, gathered about her, in great numbers, and picked up every grain. Louisa amused herself in watching them, and was quite delighted with them. She went to ask her papa and mamma to come and view them also, and to partake of the same portion.

10. But these handfuls of grain were soon *picked up*. The birds then flew up to

of the house and seemed to eye Louisa wishfully, as if they would have said, "Hast thou any thing more to give us?" Louisa understood the language. She flew to the barn to seek more grain.

11. In crossing the way, she met a little boy who had not a heart so compassionate as hers. He was carrying in his hand a cage full of birds, and was shaking it so carelessly that the poor little creatures were thrown with their heads every moment against the wires.

12. This sight gave Louisa pain. "What are you going to do with those birds?" said she to the little boy. "I do not know," answered he. "I am trying to sell them, and if nobody will buy them, I will feast my cat upon them at home."

13. "Your cat?" replied Louisa: "your cat? Oh! what an ill-natured boy." "As to that they would not be the first that she has munched alive," said he. So dangling his cage as before, he was setting off, at a great pace, when Louisa called him back, and asked him how much he would have for his birds.

14. "I will sell them, said he, for six cents, and there are ten of them!" Well, then, said Louisa, they are mine. So bidding the little boy follow her, she ran to her papa, and asked his permission to purchase those birds. Her father granted it with pleasure, and even gave his daughter an empty room for the reception of her little guests.

15. Jack (for that was the name of the ill-natured boy,) went away very well satisfied with

his bargain, and told all his companions
knew a little miss, who would buy birds

16. In a few hours, there came so many
boys to Louisa's door, that one would
thought it the entrance to a market.
crowded around her, climbing upon each
and holding up their cages with both hands,
hoping to obtain the preference for his bird.

17. Louisa bought all that were brought
before her, and had them carried into a chamber
where the first were. Night came. It
long time since Louisa had gone to bed
pleased in her mind. Am not I happy, said
to herself, being able to save the lives of so
innocent creatures, and to give them food?

18. When summer comes, I will go into
fields and groves, and all my little guests will
their sweetest songs to thank me, for the
that I have taken of them. With this reflection
she went to sleep, and dreamed that she was
a grove of finest verdure, which was full of
chirping as they fluttered from bough to bough
engaged in feeding their young ones.

19. The happy Louisa smiled in her sleep.
She rose very early to go and feed her
friends, in the aviary, and in the yard; but
was not so happy as she had been the day be-
fore. She knew how much money she had put
into her purse and that there could not be
much of it, by this time.

20. If this snowy weather should last some
longer, said she, what will become of the
birds? The wicked little boys will give
alive, as they are, to their cats! and for the

of a small sum of money, I shall not be able to redeem them.

21. Full of these sorrowful ideas, she draws out her purse slowly, in order to count her little treasure once more ; but how great was her astonishment to find her purse heavy ! She opens it and finds it full of every sort of money, up to the very strings.

22. She runs immediately to her father and relates the incident to him, with transports of pleasure and surprise. Her father took her to his bosom, kissed her, and shed tears of joy upon the cheeks of Louisa.

23. My dear child, said he, thou hast never made me so happy, as in this moment. Continue to relieve the little creatures that thou shalt see in distress, and in proportion as thy purse diminisheth, thou shalt find it filled again.

24. What joyful news for Louisa ! She ran immediately to her aviary, with her apron full of hemp seed and corn. All the birds came fluttering about her, and looked with eager eyes for their breakfast. After feeding them, she went down to the yard, and bestowed a plentiful meal upon the famished birds that were there. She saw herself now engaged in the support of almost an hundred dependants.

25. This afforded her such a pleasure ! her dolls and play things had never given her half so much. In the afternoon, as she was putting her hand into a bag of hemp seed, she found a note with these words : " The inhabitants of the air fly towards thee, O Lord ! and thou giv-

est them food ; Thou openest thy hand
est all things living with plenteousness."

26. She turned to her father, who loved her, and said, Am I therefore the Almighty Parent ? The inhabitants air fly towards me, and when I open my fill them with plenty.

27. Yes, my dear, said her father, ev thou dost good to any creature, thou God. When grown up, thou shalt assist low creatures as thou now dost the bi thou shalt then resemble thy Creator more. Ah, what a happiness for a mortal able to act thus.

28. During a week Louisa continued tend her bounty, and feed every thing t hungry about her. At length the snow and the fields resumed their verdure, birds, which had before not dared to neighbourhood of the houses, now turn flight towards the grove.

29. But those that had been put in th ber, remained there confined ; they sun, flew up against the window, and pe the glass, but in vain ; their prison strong for them.

30. Louisa could not as yet imagin made them so uneasy. One day, as carrying them their food, her father ei few moments after her. She was ver to see that he was desirous of being wi her pleasure.

31. My dear Louisa, said he, why birds appears so uneasy ? I should im

they wanted something. May not they, perhaps, have left in the fields companions, whom they would be glad to see again? You are certainly right, papa; they have appeared to be dull ever since the return of the fine weather. I will go and open the window, and let them fly away.

32. I think thou wouldst not do amiss, replied her father. Thou wilt diffuse joy through the whole country. These little prisoners will go to find their friends once more, and will fly to meet them as thou dost to meet me, when I have been absent some time from home.

33. Before he had finished speaking, the windows were all thrown up; the birds perceived it, and in two minutes, there did not remain a single one of them in the room. Some were seen to skim along the ground; others to soar up into the air; some to perch upon the neighbouring trees; and others to fly backwards and forwards before the windows, with chirpings of joy.

34. Louisa went every day to walk in the fields. She saw and heard numbers of birds, on every side. At one time, a lark would raise up before her feet, and sing its sprightly strain, while it mounted to the clouds. At another time, a linnet perched upon the highest branches of a tree chirped forth its song.

35. And whenever she observed any one distinguish itself, by the sweetness of its music, Louisa would say, There is one of my little guests; one may know by its voice, that it was well fed, last winter.

CHARLOTTE.

1. Before the house that Charlotte's parents lived in, you must know there was a little opening, ornamented with a grass plot, and quite overshadowed with a noble tree, from whence the eye could plainly see whatever passed along the public road.

2. Miss Charlotte frequently would come beneath this umbrage with her little chair, and in her hand the stocking she was making for her dear mamma, who had instructed her to knit. One day, as she was sitting there, she saw a poor old man advancing very slowly towards her, on the road; his hair was of a silver white, his back was bent with age, he rested on a stick, and seemed to walk with pain.

3. Poor man! said Charlotte, looking at him, he seems very much in pain, and probably is poor. If so, then he is doubly miserable.

4. Further on, she saw a company of boys together, who came after the old man. They very quickly reached him. They remarked his thread bare coat, that was exceedingly long skirted, and had sleeves much too short. His hat, quite rusty, did not escape their notice, as the flaps hung down upon his shoulders: he had hollow cheeks; and seeing him they all burst out a laughing.

5. As it chanced, there lay a stone upon the ground before him, which he stumbled over, as *was almost down*. This set them once *as a laughing*, while the poor old man, for his *sighed*.

6. I was once young as you are, said he to the boys, and did not laugh at the infirmities of such as I am now. You will in time if you live, be old yourselves ; and every day you are approaching towards my time of life. You will then be sensible of the injustice of your ridicule.

7. So saying, he went on again, but made a second stumble, and in struggling to preserve himself from falling, lost his cane and down he went. At this the boys renewed their laugh a third time, crying out, Ah ! ha ! old daddy ; well now, how will you get up ?

8. Miss Charlotte, who had heard the old man speak, was touched with pity for him ; and seeing his situation, she put her stocking down upon the chair, ran towards him, picked up his cane, put it back into his hand, and taking hold that moment of his other arm, as if she had been very strong, exhorted him to lean upon her, and not notice any thing the boys might say.

9. The poor old man looked at her ; Lovely child, said he, how good you are ! I am at once consoled for all the ridicule with which they treat me. May you be forever happy ! and so saying, they walked on together ; but the boys no longer followed him, as they did before, being, I suppose, a little ashamed of their conduct.

10. Some few moments after, one of them fell down himself, and all the rest burst out a laughing as they had done before ; but for his part he was quite angry, and thought at first that he would seek revenge upon his com-

ions. But upon reflection, he thought a he was justly punished for laughing at man's distress, and formed a resolution, be so wicked again.

11. So he followed the aged person v had abused, though at a distance, h might have some opportunity of makin ment for his fault.

12. In the mean time, the good old sisted by the friendly aid of Charlotte, r on with slow, but yet with sure steps. fered him the opportunity of stopping t himself a little. Do you see our hou she, pray stay and sit a little under t tree ; my parents are neither of them ; but you will not, on that account, be v ceived.

13. The poor old man accepted Cl offer. She brought him out a chair, an hearten up his spirits, let him have so small beer, and bread and cheese. The nothing else to give.

14. Her guest could not refrain from her continually. You have still got par he. They love you ; you love them. T not therefore but be very happy ; and always be so !

15. And you, good old man, said C have not you got children ? I had once a he ; he lived in the city, affectionately l often came to see me : but alas ! he is n and I am left with no one to comfort m

16. His widow, indeed is rich ; but it upon her to be a lady, and imag

worth her while to know if I am dead or living, as she wishes to forget that her husband's father is a peasant. I do not even know her children, which in truth are mine.

17. He was so much affected while he spake these words, that tears rolled down his withered cheeks. The gentle Charlotte likewise was affected, and cried out, Can any one be half so cruel! Ah! my mother, my dear mother would not act so wickedly. She then spake of other matters that she might not grieve him.

18. When he arose to go away, he gave Charlotte his blessing; but she would not leave him yet; she meant to go a little way farther with him.

19. On the way they saw the little boy who had been following them; for he had run a great way on before, and now was sitting on the grass. He cast his eyes down when they looked upon him, got up after they had passed, and followed them again.

20. The little girl observed him, but would not speak of him. She asked the old man if he lived alone. No, little lady, answered he, I have a cottage. See, 'tis there, beside yon tree, across the meadow. You observe 'tis no great distance off. 'Tis in the middle of a little garden.

21. I have an orchard, and a field likewise, and I told a poor old neighbour, who a few years since, lost his cottage, which fell down through age, that if he would come and live with me, he should in future cultivate my grounds.

22. I told him I would live with him ; that I should enjoy whatever I might have, and would only ask him to provide me necessaries. He agreed. He never had a child. He is extremely good and honest ; and for the most part I am quite at ease in his society.

23. Yet, in spite of all his diligence, at times I think myself deserted. I no longer see a son, from whom I was accustomed to receive the tenderest tokens of affection. In the very place, where I have seen him run up towards me, I am now assisted only by the hands of strangers.

24. I never see his children, who have utterly forgotten me. I shall live far distant from them. I shall die, and very likely never see them more. Alas ! if their poor father were but living still !—He could not utter one word more.

25. The gentle Charlotte, touched with those complaints, said to him, I will come and see you, with my mother. We will frequently visit you.

26. But her kindness only served to aggravate his grief. It made him recollect, how much consolation he was utterly deprived of ; and in turning her his thanks, the tears he could keep from shedding, hindered him from seeing where he walked.

27. He took his handkerchief to wipe his eyes and troubled by sad thoughts, instead of putting it into his pocket, he let it drop upon the ground without perceiving what he did ; nor did his companion notice it.

28. The boy, however, that kept following him, observed the mistake, picked it up, and came to give it him. Here, good old man, said he, you dropped your handkerchief: 'twas on the ground.

29. Thank you, thank you heartily, my little friend, answered the old man. God's providence be praised for all things! Here's an honest little gentleman, that does not ridicule old age, and laugh at the infirmities that attend it. Oh no, no, you do not look with scorn upon a poor old man. See it in your eyes. You are not of the number of those wicked little fellows, whom you must certainly have passed, although you were not with them.

30. Charlotte recollected having seen the little boy among them, and remarked his laughing at as they did, but she would not say a word about it; although she did not in the least approve of the boy's behaviour, yet she did not like to give him pain by telling what she knew.

31. The little culprit, in the mean time, held down his head, and thought of lying more than once, to conceal his fault. But then he thought again, that by so doing he should only add sin to sin: so he looked up to the old man, and said, pardon me, Sir, I was among them, and insulted you with the rest; but am now extremely sorry for it.

32. I find that when I mix with children of my age, or thereabouts, I am much more wicked than when I am alone. Had I been but by myself, I should never have laughed at those false promises you made; but on the other hand, my first

desire would certainly have been to I should now be very happy to assist could, and in that way make amends for fence.

33. You have already done so, my friend, said he, you have a deal of good nature, and will certainly become man. I dare believe as much. Come to both of you to my abode. 'Tis just but a few steps and we shall then be there as I have I will provide for you.

34. At this invitation of the good old little boy was very happy. Charlotte have been glad to have excused herself not, from fear of grieving him. They the habitation. He set before them so two porringers, a loaf of bread, a little must be owned, but very good.

35. They all sat down and made a noble meal. What pleasure you both said the old man. Yes, truly, I am ve to have found out two good little friends do not scorn the poor and infirm. My night will be the sweeter for it.

36. After some time, this little boy began to think of returning. Charlotte's parents might come home, and be uneasy in absence; and the little boy was afraid his mother would scold at him, as he said, in any longer.

37. This mother, you are so afraid then be very cross, said the old man. ways, said the little boy. She is

etimes so, and though she loves me, yet I
her greatly.

8. And your father?—Oh, I scarce knew
: he has been dead these four years.—
se four years! interrupted the old man, and
d his eyes upon the child—Should it be he!
ve some recollection of his features.—Should
e the little Francis!—Yes, yes; Francis is
name.

9. The old man stood for some moments mo-
less, and with an altered voice, his eyes
ful of tears, and with extended arms, cried
to Francis, My dear child! you do not then
ollect your grandfather.—Come and embrace
—You have got the very features of my son.
dearest child, you were not thinking of

10. Francis tenderly caressed him, but endea-
red all in vain to speak. The little Charlotte,
shed tears of joy to see the old man comfort-

1. I see him, I see him, said the old man; he
reality the living picture of his father. Yes,
s my son. My son affectionately loved me,
his son will love me too. I shall not be so
tched as I thought for, in old age, nor will
evening of my life be passed without some
I shall depart in peace.

2. But I forgot, that by detaining you, I may
ject you to your mother's displeasure. I
so much pleased, that I forgot the circum-
ce.—Depart, then, my dear boy, I do not
that my joy should cost you tears. Depart,
love your mother; be obedient to her, even

though you should not come to see me. 'Twill be very hard, however, should you quit me now forever. Come and see me, if you can, provided you do not disobey, or tell a story, to obtain permission.

43. Turning then to Charlotte : As for you, dear little maid, said he, I am convinced you ought to leave me, as your parents will be certainly uneasy, should you stay. I owe you all this joy, and shall forever bless you. Come, at times, and see me.—Do not, I beseech you, my dear children, utterly forget me. May you both be happy.

44. At these words, the children went away, affectionately holding one another by the hand; but every now and then they looked behind them, while the old man on his part, kept looking constantly at them, and did not turn to go in doors till they were out of sight.

45. The little Charlotte got home safe. Her parents were not returned yet, but did not stay out long. She told them whither she had been, and what, too, she had seen. It was the subject of their evening's conversation.

46. On the morrow they all went to see the good old man; and in the sequel, frequently repeated their kind visits. Francis, likewise came often to see his grandfather, who much delighted with his company, conversation, and affectionate behaviour; while, his part, Francis was as much rejoiced, cepting when he did not see his Charlotte *he was then quite* sorrowful, and went *h*
id.

47. The more he grew towards manhood, still the more he loved her ; and when he was old enough to take him a wife, he would espouse no other, though she was not rich. The old man lived to see them married, blessed them, and soon after died in peace.

THE THREE LITTLE FISHES.

1. When Harry was quite a small boy he seemed to be very well contented and satisfied with what he knew and possessed : but as soon as his ideas began to open and expand, he grew ambitious of greater power and knowledge.

2. He wished for the strength of that bull, and for the swiftness of yonder horse. And at the close of a serene summer's evening, while he and his father walked in the garden, he wished for wings, that he might fly up and see what the sky, and the stars, and the rising moon were made of.

3. In order to check these unreasonable desires, his father addressed him in the following manner.—I will tell you a story, my Harry.

4. On the other side of yonder hill there runs a mighty clear river ; and in that river, on a time, there lived three silver trouts, the prettiest little fishes that any one ever saw.

5. Now the great God took a wonderful liking to these pretty silver trouts, and he

them want for nothing that such little fish could have occasion for.

6. But two of them grew sad and discontented and the one wished for this thing, and the other for that thing, and neither of them could take pleasure in any thing that they had, because they were always longing for something that they had not.

7. Now Harry, you must know, that all this was very naughty, in those two little trouts for God had been exceedingly kind to them he had given them every thing that was fittest for them; and he never grudged them any thing that was for their good; but instead of thanking him for all his care and kindness, they blamed him, in their own minds, for refusing them any thing that their silly fancies were set upon.

8. In short, there was no end of their wishing and longing, and quarreling in their hearts, for this thing and the other.

9. At last the great God was so provoked with them, that he resolved to punish their naughtiness by granting their desires, and to make folly of these two little stubborn trouts an example to all the foolish fish in the world. For this purpose, he called out to the three little silvery trouts, and told them they should have whatever they wished.

10. Now, the eldest of these trouts was a very proud little fish, and wanted, forsooth, to be above all other little fishes. "May it please your greatness," said he, "I must be free to tell you that I do not, at all, like the way in which you have placed me."

11. "Here you have put me into a poor, narrow, and troublesome river, where I am straitened on the right side, and straitened on the left side, and can neither get down in the ground, nor up into the air, nor go where, nor do any one thing I have a mind to. I am not so blind, for all, but that I can see well enough, how mighty kind and bountiful you can be to others.

12. "There are your favourite little birds, who fly this way, and that way, and mount up to the very heavens, and do whatever they please, and have every thing at command, because you have given them wings. Give me such wings also as you have given to them, and then I shall have something for which I ought to thank you."

13. No sooner asked, than it was granted. He felt the wings he wished for growing from either side, and, in a minute, he spread them abroad, and rose out of the water. He mounted high into the air, above the very clouds, and he looked down with scorn upon all the fishes in the world.

14. He now resolved to travel, and take his diversion far and wide. He flew over rivers, and meadows, and woods, and mountains; till growing faint with hunger and thirst, his wings began to fail him, and he thought it best to come down to get some refreshment.

15. The little fool did not consider that he was now in a strange country, and many a mile from the sweet river where he was born and bred, and had received all his nourishment.

16. So when he came down, he happened

light among dry sands and rocks, where there was not a bit to eat, nor a drop of water to drink, and so there he lay, faint and tired, and unable to rise, gasping and fluttering, and beating himself against the stones, till at length he died in great pain and misery.

17. Now the second silver trout, though he was not so high minded as the first, yet did not want for conceit enough; and he was, moreover, a narrow hearted and selfish little trout, and provided he himself was snug and safe, he did not care what became of all the fishes in the world.

18. So says he to God: "May it please your Majesty, I don't wish, not I, for wings to fly out of the water, and to ramble into strange places where I don't know what may become of me.

19. "I lived contented and happy enough the other day, when as I got under a cool bar from the heat of the sun, I saw a great ray coming down into the water, and it fastened itself. I don't know how, about the gills of a little fish that was basking beside me, and he was out of the water, struggling, and working in great pain, till he was carried I know not to quite out of sight.

20. "So I thought in my own mind, that some evil sometime or other, might happen to me, and my heart trembled within me, and I have been very sad and discontented ever since.

21. "Now, all that I desire of you is, that you would tell me the meaning of this. I have seen other dangers to which you have exposed us poor little mortal fishes: I

THE AMERICAN READER.

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should have sense enough to take care of his own safety ; and I am very well able to provide for my own living, I warrant you.

22. No sooner said than done. God immediately opened his understanding, and he perceived the nature and meaning of snares, nets, and lines, and of all the dangers to which little trouts could be liable.

23. At first he greatly rejoiced in his new discovery, and said to himself, " Now, I shall be the happiest of all fishes ; for I understand, and am forewarned of every danger that can come near me, I am sure I can take care of myself too well, not to keep out of harm's way."

24. From this time forward, he took care not to go into any deep holes, for fear that some other huge fish might be there, who would make nothing of swallowing him up whole. He also kept away from the shallow places, especially in hot weather, lest he should dry them up, and not leave him enough to swim in.

25. When he saw the shadow of a cloud coming and moving upon the river, " Aha ! " said he to himself, here are the fishermen with their nets ; " and immediately he got on one side, and skulked under the banks, where he kept basking in his skin, till the cloud was past.

26. Again, when he saw a fly skimming the water, or a worm coming down the stream, he did not dare to bite, however hungry he might be ;—" No, no, " said he to his honest friends, I am not such a fool as to come to, neither ; go your ways,

those who know no better, who are that you may serve as baits to some ous hook, that lies hid for the des those ignorant and silly trouts, that their guard."

27. Thus this over careful trout self in continual frights and alarms, neither eat, nor drink, nor sleep in some mischief should be at hand, should be taken napping. He daily grew and poorer, and sadder and sadder pined away with hunger, and sighs to skin and bone ; till wasted almost with care and melancholy, through fear he at last died the most miserable of

28. Now when God came to the silver trout, and asked him what for : "Alas !" said this darling little trout, know, may it please your worship, that a very foolish and good for nothing, and I don't know, not I, what is good what is bad for me : and I wonder how to be worth bringing into the world you could see in me to take an about me.

29. But if I must wish for something that you would do with me what I think best ; and that I should be pleased and die, even just as you would have

30. Now, as soon as this precious made this prayer, in his good and hearty heart, God took such a liking and love as the like was never known. And it in his own heart that he could

great care of this sweet little trout, who had trusted himself so wholly to his love and good pleasure.

31. And God went wheresoever he went, and was always with him, and about him, and was to him as a father, and friend, and companion : and he put contentment into his mind, and joy into his heart : and so this little trout slept always in peace, and waked in gladness ; and whether he was full or hungry, or whatever happened to him, he was still pleased and thankful ; and he was the happiest of all fishes, that ever swam in any water. ♡

32. Harry, at the close of this fable, looked down, and grew thoughtful, and his father left him to ruminate on what he had heard. The next day he requested his father to repeat the story of the three little silver trouts.

33. When he had ended, "Dadda," says he, "I believe I begin to guess a little at what you mean. You would not have me wish for any thing, but leave every thing to God : and I hope that I shall never forget the instruction contained in your pretty story.

ALFRED AND DORINDA.

1. On a fine summer's day, Mr. Vernon had promised to go a walking with his two children, Alfred and Dorinda, in a very fine garden, a little way out of town. He went up to his dressing room to prepare himself, and the children remained in the parlour.

2. Alfred, delighted with the pleasure he promised himself in his walk, jumping and running carelessly to and fro in the room, happened to brush the skirts of his coat against a very valuable flower that his father was rearing with great pains, and which he had unfortunately just brought in from before the window, in order to preserve it from the heat of the sun.

3. O brother ! what have you done ! said Dorinda, taking up the flower, which was broken off from the stalk. She was holding it still in her hand, when her father, who had finished dressing himself, entered the parlour.

4. How, Dorinda, said Mr. Vernon, in an angry tone, do you pluck a flower which you have seen me take so much pains to rear, in order to have seed from it ?

5. Dear Papa, answered Dorinda, trembling, pray do not be angry ! I am not angry, replied Mr. Vernon, growing more calm ; but as you may take a fancy to pluck flowers in the garden that I am going to, and which does not belong to me, you will not take it amiss that I leave you at home.

6. Dorinda looked down and held her tongue. Alfred could not keep silence any longer. He approached his father with tears in his eyes, and said, it was not my sister, Papa ; it was I that broke off the flower : so it is I that must stay at home. Take my sister along with you.

6. Mr. Vernon, touched with the ingenuous behaviour of the children, and their affection for each other, kissed them, and said, you are both dear to me, and you shall both go with me.

8. Alfred and Dorinda leaped for joy. They went therefore to walk in the garden, where they saw plants of the most curious kinds. Mr. Vernon with pleasure observed Dorinda press her clothes on each side, and Alfred take up the skirts of his coat under his arms, for fear of doing any damage, as they walked among the flowers.

9. The flower that he had lost would, without doubt, have given him great pleasure ; but he enjoyed much more in seeing mutual affection, candour, and prudence, flourish in his children.



THE FROWARD LITTLE GIRL.

1. O ye children, who have had the misfortune to contract a vicious habit ; it is for your reformation and encouragement, that I tell the following story ; in which you will see that amendment is easy, when one forms a sincere and courageous resolution.

2. Rosalind, until her seventh year, was the joy of her parents. At that age, when the dawning light of reason ought to discover to us the ugliness of our faults, she on the contrary, had contracted a habit, which cannot be better described to you, than by the example of those snarling curs that growl incessantly, and seem always ready to run at your legs and bite them.

3. If any one, by chance, touched her play things, she would give that person a side-look

and a grumble between her teeth, for a quarter of an hour. If any one chid her, though so gently, she would start up, and stamp her feet, and throw the chairs about the room like a mad creature.

4. Neither her father, nor her mother, nor any of the family could endure her. It is true she sometimes repented of her faults. She often shed tears, in private, on seeing herself become every body's aversion. But she soon returned to her old habit, and instead of reforming, her temper became more and more cross every day.

5. One evening, (it was New Year's eve) she saw her mother go towards her room, with a small basket under her cloak. Rosalind had followed her, but Mrs. Faulkener ordered her to go back to the parlour. Upon which she put on the sullenest face that she ever showed, and clapped the door to so violently, that it made all the windows rattle.

6. Half an hour after, her mother sent for her. What was her surprise, on seeing her room lighted up with twenty candles, and a table covered with the most elegant toys. She could not utter a word, transported as she was with joy and admiration.

7. Come hither, Rosalind, said her mother, and read on this paper for whom these things are intended. Rosalind went to the table and saw among the toys a slip of paper, on which she read the following words written in large letters :—FOR AN AMIABLE LITTLE GIRL, IN REWARD FOR HER GOOD BEHAVIOUR.

8. She looked down, and did not say a word. Well, Rosalind, said her mother, for whom are these intended ? Not for me, said Rosalind, with tears in her eyes.

9. Here is another paper, said Mrs. Faulkener ; see if that does not concern you. Rosalind took it and read FOR A FROWARD LITTLE GIRL, WHO IS SENSIBLE OF HER FAULTS, AND ON THE BEGINNING OF A NEW YEAR WILL TAKE PAINS TO AMEND THEM. Oh ! that is I, that is I, said she, throwing herself into her mother's arms, and crying bitterly.

10. Mrs. Faulkener also shed tears, partly for sorrow of her daughter's faults, and partly for joy at the repentance she showed. Come, said she, after a moment's silence, take what is intended for you, and may God, who has heard your resolution, give you fortitude to execute it.

11. No, mamma, said Rosalind, the whole belongs to the person on the first paper. Keep it for me until I am like her ; you can tell me when I am so. This answer gave Mrs. Faulkener much pleasure ; she therefore put all the toys into a drawer, and giving the key to Rosalind, said, There my child, you shall open the drawer, when you yourself shall think it the proper time.

12. Near six weeks passed without the least instance of ill humour from Rosalind. She then came to her mother, and in a very modest and humble manner, asked, May I open the drawer now mamma ? Yes, my dear, you may, answered Mrs. Faulkener, clasping her tenderly in her

arms. But pray tell me how you have to get the better of your temper so?

13. I studied it continually, replied it cost me some trouble at first, but evening and evening, and a hundred times I prayed to God to assist me in my work. Faulkener shed the most delicious. Rosalind became mistress of the toy after the affections of all her friends.

14. Her mother related this happening in the presence of another little miscreant with the same fault; and she was so struck that she immediately formed the resolution of imitating Rosalind, in order to become like her.

15. Her endeavours were attended with like success; and thus, Rosalind was made happy herself, but rendered those who chose to profit by her example. What child is there, that would not enjoy the same honour and happiness.

PHILIP.

1. Oh! I'll be revenged and make him fully repent it, cried little Philip, while his countenance turned suddenly quite red. His dearest friend, Stephen, who happened to be near him at that instant, overheard him and said to himself in this manner. He then called to him, and said, Pray, my friend, what do you design to be revenged on?

2. Philip lifting up his eyes, saw his friend, and his countenance re-assumed the smile of joy, which it usually expressed. Ah! said he, come with me my friend, and you shall see whom I will be revenged on!

3. You remember, I believe, my little *supple Jack*, that pretty cane my father gave me: see, 'tis all in pieces, and young Robinson, the farmer's son, that lives at yonder cottage, has broke it. And pray why, said Stephen, did he break it?

4. I was walking peaceably along, said Philip, with my cane, which I was doubling around my body, as you have seen me do; one of the ends, by some means or other, got out of my hand, when I was just opposite the gate, by the wooden bridge, and where the little blackguard had put down a pitcher of water, which he was carrying home from the well. My cane, in springing, struck the pitcher, and overset, but did not break it.

5. He came up close to me, and began to call me names. I seriously assured him I had not intended to do what I did, and was extremely sorry for the accident. He would not hear me, but laid hold that moment of my *supple Jack*, and twisted it as you see. But I'll make him heartily repent it, I warrant him.

6. He is, indeed, a very bad boy, said Stephen, but is already punished very well for being so, since every one detests and shuns him. If he wishes for a little play, he can never procure a play-fellow. If he comes where any boys are set for diversion, they always thrust him out

or if he will not quit them, they leave him. The hatred with which he is looked upon, cannot but sufficiently revenge you.

7. Yes ; but he has broke my cane, said Philip. My papa but very lately gave it to me ; and you know what a fine one it was. I did him no harm. I offered to fill up his pitcher again, as I had undesignedly knocked it down. But nothing but mischief would satisfy him. I am resolved, therefore, to be revenged.

8. Believe me, my dear friend, said Stephen, it will be far better not to mind him. Your contempt is punishment enough for such an one. You are not such as he is ; and depend upon it, he will show himself abler, at all times, to do mischief than yourself. And now I think of I must tell you what but very lately happened to him.

9. Quite unluckily for him, he saw a bee upon a flower : he tried to catch it, and pull off its wings for pastime ; but the bee contrived to sting him, and flew off in safety to the hive. Quite mad with rage, he said as you did, he revenged for this. Accordingly he took a stick, thrust it through the hole into the bee and turned it about.

10. By this means, Robinson killed several of the little creatures ; but in an instant the swarm flew all at once upon him, and stung him in a thousand different places. You may have heard him utter piercing cries, and in his agony he rolled upon the ground.

11. His father ran up to him, and tried to get him out of the difficulty, but the bee

by flinging bowls of water on him. He was ill, in consequence of this, for several days. You see, then, that he was no gainer by his vengeance.

12. Revenge not, therefore, his insults; he will get punishment enough, without your taking any trouble in the matter. Besides, it would be making yourself too much like him to have any thing to do with him. I advise you, therefore, to avoid him, in future, and leave him to himself.

13. I think, said Philip, you are in the right: so come along with me. I'll tell my father every thing, and I think he will not be angry with me: for look you, I can easily take comfort for my broken cane, but not if he should imagine that I neglected to take care of what he gave me.

14. After this they went together. Philip told his father what had happened. The good gentleman consoled his son, and thanked the little Stephen for the advice which he had given him.

15. On the succeeding day Philip had another cane exactly like the first. He had occasion to pass the farmer's house; young Robinson was at the door and hung his head while Philip went along.

16. However, Philip, some days after saw this little fellow fall as he was carrying home a heavy log of wood, and which prevented him from getting up again.

17. Philip ran up to him, took the log from his shoulder, helped him to get up, and

the load once more upon his shoulders. Robinson was now quite overwhelmed at the idea of receiving aid from him who had served so ill, and heartily repented his behaviour.

18. Philip afterwards went home again. At first he had assisted one who did not love, and for no other reason, but he could not see a fellow creature without aiding him. And this, said Philip, was his best revenge. It is impossible I should forget it. Afterwards, young Robinson became a very good boy, and the friend and helper of Philip and Stephen.

BELLA AND MARIAN.

1. The sun was just peeping over the eastern horizon, to enliven with his golden rays one of the most beautiful mornings of the year, when Bella went down into the garden with a rich cake in her hand, of which she intended to make her first meal, while she rambled on those delightful walks.

2. Her heart was filled with pleasures, on surveying the beauties of the garden, in listening to the enlivening notes of the birds, and on breathing the sweet fragrance of the trees and flowers.

3. As she was thus employed, all on a sudden she heard the sound of steps, and looking around, she saw a little girl come

ards the same walk in which she was, eating piece of coarse brown bread with the keenest appetite.

4. This little girl was also rambling about the arden for amusement, and she saw so many ings which took up her attention, that she came p close to Bella unexpectedly.

5. As soon as she saw that it was Miss Bella, he stopped short, seemed confused, and turning about, ran away as fast as she could : but bella called to her, and asked her why she ran way. This made the little girl run the faster, and Bella endeavoured to pursue her ; not being o much used to exercise, she was soon left behind.

6. Luckily, as it happened, the little stranger had turned up a path leading into that in which bella was. Here they suddenly met, and Bella caught her by the arm, saying, " Come, I have ou fast now ; you are my prisoner, and cannot et away from me."

7. The poor girl was now more frightened han ever, and struggled hard for her liberty. but after some time, the sweet accents of Bella, and her assurance hat she meant only to be her riend, having rather allayed her fears, she became a little more tractable, and quietly followed er into the summer house.

8. Miss Bella, having made the stranger sit own by her, asked her if she had a father living, and what was his profession. The girl old her, that thank God her father was living, and that he did any thing for an honest livelihood. She said he was then at work in the gar-

den, and had brought her with him that morning.

9. Bella then observing that the young stranger had got a piece of brown bread in her hand, desired that she would let her taste it : but she said it so scratched her throat on swallowing a bit of it, that she could eat no more, and asked the little girl why her father did not get better bread for her.

10. " Because (replied the stranger) he does not get so much money as your papa ; and besides that, there are four more of us, and we all eat heartily. Sometimes one wants a frock, another a jacket, and all he can get is barely sufficient for us, without laying out hardly any thing upon himself, though he never misses a day's work, while he has it to do."

11. Upon Bella's asking her if she ever eats plum-cake, she said she did not even know what it was ; but she had no sooner put a bit into her mouth, which Miss Bella gave her, than she said she had never in her life tasted any thing so nice.

12. She then asked her what was her name when the girl rising, and making her a low bow, said it was Marian. " Well then my dear Marian, (said Bella) stop here a moment ; go and ask my mamma for something to eat and will come back directly ; but be sure not to go away." Marian replied, that she was not afraid of her ; and that she would certainly wait for her coming back.

13. Bella ran directly to her mamma and begged she would give her some (

or a little ~~who~~ who had nothing but dry bread for breakfast. Her mamma, being highly pleased with her good nature, gave her some in a cup, and a small roll also.

14. Bella instantly ran away with it, and coming to Marian, said she hoped she had not made her wait ; but begged her to put down her brown bread till another time, and eat what she had brought her.

15. Marian, after tasting the jelly, and smacking her lips, said it was very nice indeed ; and asked Bella, if she eat such every day. Miss Bella replied, that she eat those things frequently, and if she would come now and then, she would always give her some.

16. They now became very familiar together, and Miss Bella asked Marian a number of questions, such as whether she was never sick, seeing her now look so hearty, and in what manner he employed her time ?

17. Marian replied, she did not know what it was to be sick : and as to her employments, in winter she went to get straw for the cow, and dry ticks to make the pot boil ; in summer she went to weed the corn, and in harvest time to glean the fields and to pull hops.

18. In short, they were never at a loss for work ; and she said her mother would make a bad noise, if any of her little ones should take it into their heads to be lazy.

19. Miss Bella observing that her little visitor went barefooted, which much surprised her, was induced to ask the reason of it ; when Marian replied that it would be too expensive for her fa-

ther to think of finding shoes and stock them all, and therefore none of them had but they found no inconvenience from it time had so hardened the bottom of their feet to make shoes unnecessary.

20. The time having slipped away, in the midst of chit-chat, Marian told Miss Bella, that she was going in order to gather some greens from the cow, who would want her breakfast by one o'clock.

21. This little girl did not eat up all the jelly, but saved some part of it to take home to her youngest sister, who, she was sure would be very fond of it. Being vastly pleased to find Marian was so thoughtful to her sister, and desired that she would come again at the same hour the next morning.

22. Miss Bella had now, for the first time, enjoyed the pleasure of doing good. She was a little longer in the garden, enjoying the reflection, how happy she had made Marian, and how grateful that little girl had showed herself to be, how pleased her sister would be to taste the fragrant jelly, which she had never even before.

23. Miss Bella was thinking of the happiness which she should receive from her presents and bounties to her new acquaintance, when she recollected that she had some ribbands and a necklace, which her mamma had given her a little time before, but of which she now was grown tired. Besides these, she had other old things to give her, which,

use to make Marian quite
e.

24. The next morning Marian came into the room again, and Miss Bella was ready to receive her, with a good portion of gingerbread. Indeed, the interview was continued every morning, and as Bella always carried some dainties along with her. When her pocket failed her, she would beg her mamma to supply her with something out of the pantry, which she was always ready to do.

25. One day, however, it happened that Bella received an answer which gave her some uneasiness. She had been begging her mamma to advance her something on her weekly allowance, in order to buy shoes and stockings for Marian; which her mamma gave her a flat denial, telling her, that she wished she would be a little more sparing to her favourite, for which she would give her a reason at dinner time.

26. Bella was a little surprised at this answer, and waited impatiently for the time of dinner. At length they sat down to table, and dinner was over before her mamma said a word about Marian: but a dish of shrimps being then served, gave her mamma an opportunity of beginning the conversation.

27. "I think, Bella, (said she) this is your favourite dish." Bella replied it was, and could not help observing, how happy she supposed Marian would be to taste them, who, she imagined, had never so much as seen any thing with her mamma's leave she begged two of the dearest to give to that little girl.

28. Mrs. Adams, (for that was her name) seemed unwilling to grant her request that she was afraid she would do her more mischief than good.

29. At present, (said her mamma,) her dry brown bread with an appetite, and bare-footed on the ground without comfort. Should you continue to feed her with it, and accustom her to wear shoes and stockings, what would she do, should she, by any loss of your favour, and with it those indulgences? She would then lament that she had ever experienced your bounty.

30. Bella hastily replied, that she might be a friend to her all her life, and only that her mamma, in order to enable her to do so, would add a little to her weekly allowance, and she would manage it with all the frugality possible.

31. Mrs. Adams, then asked her daughter if she did not know of any other children in distress; to which Bella replied, that she knew several besides, and particularly two, in a neighbouring village, who had neither father nor mother, and who, without doubt, stood in need of assistance.

32. Her mamma then asked her, why she was not rather uncharitable to feed Maria with sweetmeats and dainties, while other poor children were starving with hunger. To this she replied, that she hoped she should have something to spare for them likewise; but, in all events, she loved Maria best.

However, her mamma advised her to give sweet things seldomer, and instead of these stow on her something that would be of use to her, such as an apron, or a gown. immediately proposed to give her one of socks ; but her mamma soon made her sensible of the impropriety of dressing up a village without shoes or stockings, in a muslin

“ Were I in your place, (said her mamma) I should be sparing in my own expences for time, and when I had saved a little money, I should lay it out in buying whatever was most necessary for her.” Bella followed her mamma’s advice, and Marian, from this time, receives presents that were far more useful than meats.

And besides these, Miss Bella contrived to lay by a certain sum every month to the school-master of the village to instruct Marian in reading. This little girl was so sensible of the favour she received, that she grew every day tenderly fond of her kind benefactress. frequently paid her a visit, and was never so happy as when she could do any little matters for her.

Marian came one day to the garden gate to wait for Bella’s coming down to her ; but she did not come, and she was obliged to go back without seeing her. She returned two days successively, but no Bella appeared ; this was a great affliction to the poor girl, and she began to fear that she had inadvertently neglected her.

37. I have perhaps, (said she to be something to vex her : but I am sure I had, I would ask her a thousand pardons, I cannot live without loving her.

38. While she was thus reflecting, Mrs. Adams' maids came out of the room when poor Marian stopped her, and where Miss Bella was. "Miss Bella, (woman,) she is ill of the small pox, indeed, that there are no hopes of recovery!"

39. Poor Marian, on hearing this, was so distracted, and without considering what she did, flew up stairs, and burst into Mrs. Adams' room, imploring on her knees, that she might be permitted to see her dear, dear daughter.

40. Mrs. Adams would have stopped her, but the door being half open, she saw her on the bed side, like an arrow out of a bow. Bella was in a violent fever, alone, and very spirited ; for all her little companions were sickened by her.

41. Marian, drowned in tears, seized Bella's hand, and kissed it. "Ah, my dear Miss, (said she,) is it in this condition you are! But you must not die! What will become of me! I will watch over you, I will nurse you : shall I not, my dear Miss Bella, by squeezing Marian's hand, signify to her that staying with her would do her good?"

42. So the little maid, with Mrs. Adams' consent, became Bella's nurse, of which she performed the part to admiration. She

and made up for her, close beside her little sick friend, whom she never left for a moment. If the slightest sigh escaped Bella, Marian was up in an instant, to know what she wanted, and gave it, with her own hands, all her medicines.

43. This grateful girl did every thing she could to amuse her friend. She ransacked Mrs. Lambs' library for books to read to her : and during the time that her eyes were darkened by the disorder, which was near a week, Marian exerted herself to the utmost to divert her.

44. When Bella grew impatient at the want of sight, Marian told her stories of what happened in the village, which she supposed would amuse and divert her. Sometimes she would say to her, "The great God will have pity upon you, as you have had pity on me. You must not, therefore, be discouraged, but trust in his goodness, and mercy."

45. And then she would say, "Will you let me sing a pretty song for you?" Bella had only to make a sign, and the little maid would sing her every song that she had learned, endeavouring by this means, to soften the affliction of her generous friend.

46. At length she began to open her eyes, and the lowliness of spirits left her, the pock dried up, and her appetite returned. Her face was still covered with red spots ; but Marian looked at her with more pleasure than ever, on account of the danger which she had been in of losing her ; while the grateful Bella, on the other hand, rewarded her with equal tenderness.

7. "In what manner, (she would sometimes

say,) can I think of requiting you, to satisfaction, for the tender care you have of me ?”

48. Miss Bella, as soon as she found herself perfectly recovered, asked her mamma in what manner she should recompense her faithful tender nurse : but Mrs. Adams, whose anxiety for the recovery of her daughter was incessant, desired Bella to leave that matter to her, as she likewise was equally in her debt.

49. Mrs. Adams gave private orders that a complete suit of clothes made for Miss Bella should be sent her, and she might have the pleasure of dressing her, the first time she wanted to go into the garden.

50. The day arrived, and it was indeed a day of rejoicing throughout the whole family. Miss Bella was beloved by all the servants as well as by all her acquaintance.

51. This was especially, a joyful day for Miss Bella, who had the double satisfaction of seeing her health restored, and of beholding her friend dressed out in her new clothes.

52. It is much easier to conceive than to express the emotions of these two tender friends when they again found themselves in the garden, on that very spot, where their acquaintance first commenced. They tenderly embraced each other, and promised an everlasting friendship.

53. You see now, my young friends, the happy story of Bella and Marian, how advantageous it is to be generous and kind. Had not her kindness, secured the friendship, she might have sunk under her severe

sition ; from which the faithful care, and constant attention of Marian were, perhaps, the chief means of recovering her.

THE CANARY BIRD.

1. CANARY-BIRDS to sell ! who will buy my Canary-birds ? fine Canary-birds ! Thus cried a man who was passing by the house of little Jessy.

2. Jessy heard him : she ran to the window, and looking into the street, saw that it was a bird-seller, who carried upon his head a large cage full of Canary-birds.

3. They jumped so nimbly from perch to perch, and chirped so sweetly, that Jessy, in the eagerness of her curiosity, was near falling out of the window, while she endeavoured to have a nearer view of them. Will you buy a Canary-bird, Miss ? said the bird-man to her.

4. Perhaps I may, answered Jessy, if you will please to stop a little, until I can go and ask my papa's leave. The man promised to stop, and seeing a bulk on the other side of the street, laid down his cage there, and stood by the side of it.

5. Jessy, in the mean time, ran to her father's apartment, and entered it quite out of breath, crying, Come here, papa ! quick ! make haste !

6. *Mr. Glover.* And what is the hurry, pray ?

7. *Jessy.* There is a man in the street that sells Canary-birds ; I dare say he has more than

twenty. He carries a great cage them on his head.

8. *Mr. Glover.* And why does th so glad ?

9. *Jessy.* Ah, papa ; because—I give me leave—I should like to buy

10. *Mr. Glover.* And have yo nough ?

11. *Jessy.* O yes, in my purse.

12. *Mr. Glover.* But who will f bird ?

13. *Jessy.* I will, papa, myself. will be glad to be my bird.

14. *Mr. Glover.* Ah ! I am afraid

15. *Jessy.* Of what, papa ?

16. *Mr. Glover.* That you will l hunger or thirst.

17. *Jessy.* I let him die of hung Oh no, certainly I shan't. Nay, touch my own breakfast before the his.

18. *Mr. Glover.* Jessy ! Jessy ! y are very giddy ! and then you have lect him one day.

19. Jessy promised her father so coaxed him so much, and pulled hi en, that he consented, at length, to t request. He crossed the street, le the hand ; and when they came up they chose the prettiest Canary-bir most lively yellow, with a little bla his head.

20. Who was ever so happy & she held out her purse to her f

at pay for the bird. Mr. Glover then took ey out of his own to buy a handsome cage drawers, and a fountain of crystal.

1. Jessy had no sooner given the Canary-possession of its little palace, than she ran very part of the house, calling to her mam-and sisters and all the servants, to come and the bird, which her father had been so good buy for her.

2. When any of her little friends came to see the first words were, Do you know that I the prettiest Canary-bird in the world? as yellow as gold, and has a little black t, like the plumes of mamma's hat. Come, ll show him to you; his name is Cherry.

3. Cherry was quite happy under Jessy's. The first thing she thought of in the ning was to give him fresh grain and the rest water.—Whenever there was any cake ble, Cherry had a part of it.

4. She had always some provision in store him, and his habitation was constantly gar-ed with fresh groundsel. Cherry was not ateful for all these attentions.

5. He soon learned to distinguish Jessy; the moment he heard her step into the room, t fluttering of his wings! what incessant pings! Jessy almost devoured him with es.

3. At the end of the week he began to sing, produced the most delightful music. Some-s he swelled his little notes to such a length, one would have thought he must expire fatigue.

27. Then, after pausing a moment, begin again sweeter than ever, with a clear and loud, that he could be heard the house.—Jessy passed whole hours listening to him, as she sat by his cage.

28. She would sometimes let her w out of her hands, in-gazing at him, and had entertained her with a sweet song, she ed him, in her turn, with a tune, which he endeavour to imitate.

29. These pleasures, however, became familiar to Jessy. Her father one day made present of a book of prints. She was sensibly taken with it, that Cherry was so less minded.

30. He would chirp the moment he saw us, though ever so far off, but Jessy heard him not. Almost a whole week had passed without him having either groundsel or biscuit. He sang the sweetest airs that Jessy had taught him, and composed new ones for her, but in vain. The truth was, Jessy's thoughts were otherwise engaged.

31. At length one day when Mr. Glover sat at table, he cast his eyes accidentally upon his cage, and saw the Canary-bird lying on its breast, and panting for breath. Its feathers were ruffled, and it seemed to be contriving to get into a lump.

32. Mr. Glover went close up to it, and more fond chirpings were to be heard! The little creature was, indeed, but just alive! *sy!* cried Mr. Glover, what is the matter with your Canary-bird? Jessy blushed. W

I—somehow—I forgot ;—and all in a tremble she ran to fetch the box of seed.

33. Mr. Glover took down the cage, and examined the drawer and fountain. Alas! Cherry had not a single grain, nor a drop of water. Ah! poor bird, cried Mr. Glover, thou hast fallen into cruel hands! If I had foreseen this, I should never have bought thee.

34. All the company rose from table, holding up their hands and crying, the poor bird! Mr. Glover put some seed into the drawer, and filled the fountain with fresh water, but had much difficulty in bringing Cherry back to life. Jessy left the table, and went up into her chamber, crying and mourning for her poor neglected bird.

35. The next day, Mr. Glover ordered Cherry to be carried out of the house, and given as a present to the son of Mr. Mercer, his neighbour, who was counted a very careful boy, and would pay more attention to him than Jessy had done.

36. But to hear the little girl's complaints, and expressions of sorrow! ah! my dear bird! my poor Cherry! Indeed, I promise you faithfully, papa, that I will never forget him a single moment in future. Only leave him with me this once.

37. Mr. Glover was at length touched with Jessy's entreaties, and gave her back the Canary bird, but not without a severe reprimand for her negligence, and the strictest injunction as to the future.

38. *This poor little creature, said he, is sh*

up, and therefore not able to provide for it. Whenever you want any thing, you can ask it; but Cherry cannot make people understand his language.

39. If ever you let him suffer hunger or thirst again—at these words Jessy shed a flood of tears. She renewed her promise to be faithful, and assured her papa, that he might rely upon her engagements.

40. And now Jessy was once more mistress of Cherry, and Cherry was once more reconciled to Jessy.

41. About a month after, Mr. Glover was obliged to go into the country a few days with his lady. Jessy, Jessy, said he, in parting with his daughter, I earnestly recommend you to Cherry to your care.

42. Her parents were scarcely got into the carriage, when Jessy ran to the cage, and carefully provided the bird with every thing necessary. In a few hours after, her time began to hang heavy. She sent for some of her little acquaintance, and soon recovered her cheerfulness.

43. They went out to walk together, and on their return spent the evening in conversation and play. It was late when the little company broke up, and Jessy went to bed quite fatigued.

44. The next morning she awoke by break of day, and began to think of the amusements of the evening before. If the maid would have called for her, she would have run as soon as she was up to see the Miss Marshals, but was obliged to wait till after dinner.

45. However, she had scarcely finished it, before she sat out upon her intended visit : and Cherry ! he was obliged to stay at home and fast. The following day was also spent in amusements : and Cherry ! who could think of him, in the midst of such diversions ?

46. The fourth day, Mr. and Mrs. Glover returned from the country. Jessy had thought very little about their return. Her father had scarce kissed her, and enquired after her health, before he asked, How is Cherry ?

47. Very well, cried Jessy, a little confused ; and ran towards the cage to carry him some water. Alas ! the poor little creature was no more. He was laid upon his back, with his wings spread, and bill open.

48. Jessy screamed out, and wrung her hands. Every one in the house ran up and was eye witness to the disaster.

49. Ah ! poor bird ! cried Mr. Glover, how painful has thy death been ! If I had wrung thy head off, the day that I went to the country, thou wouldst have been in pain but a moment, whereas now thou hast endured for several days, the pangs of hunger and thirst, and died in a long and cruel agony.

50. However, thou art still happy, in being delivered from the hands of so pitiless a guardian. Jessy would have hid herself in the bowels of the earth.

51. She would have given all her play-things, and all her pocket-money to purchase the life of Cherry ; but it was then too late.

52. Mr. Glover took the bird, and had the skin

stuffed, and hung up in the room dare to look at it. Her eyes tears, whenever she chanced to every day she entreated her father from her sight.

53. Mr. Glover did not consent to her supplications on her part : and she showed any mark of inattention to the bird was hung up again in its place. Nobody would say in her hearing what a cruel death you suffered.

An account of the surprising death of JOHN ROGERS, minister at Colchester, England; and the case taken from a letter written by the minister in Essex, to a merchant dated October 12, 1767.

1. The late Mr. Thomas Bradbury to dine one day at the house of an eminent Christian lady in London. She was famous in her day for religion, and she bore to Christ, and to all her people.

2. Her house and table were crowded, being another Lydia in that respect. Her son, Mr. Rogers, son of the late Mr. Rogers above mentioned, happened to die the same day with Mr. Bradbury ; and he entertained Mrs. Tooley and her daughters with stories concerning his father, and he underwent on account of his

he being one of the ejected ministers, in the year 1662.

3. Mr. Rogers particularly related one anecdote, which he had often heard his father tell to himself and others, with a great deal of pleasure, concerning a deliverance which he had from being sent to prison after his *mittimus*, as they call it, was written out for that purpose.

4. He happened to live near the house of one Sir Richard Cradock, a justice of the peace, who was a most violent hater and persecutor of the dissenters, and one who laid out himself to distress them, by all the means in his power, particularly by enforcing the law against Conventicles or private religious meetings.

5. He bore a particular hatred to Mr. Rogers, and wanted, above all things, to have him in his power; and a fair opportunity, as he thought, offered itself to him. He heard that Mr. Rogers was to preach at a place, some miles distant, and he hired two men to go as spies, who were to take down the names of all the hearers they knew, and to witness against Mr. Rogers and them.

6. The thing succeeded to his wish. They brought the names of several persons, who were hearers on that occasion; and Sir Richard sent and warned such of them as he had a particular spite at, and Mr. Rogers, to appear before him. Accordingly they all came, with trembling hearts, expecting the worst; for they knew the violence of the man.

7. While they were in his great hall, expecting to be called upon, there happened to

come into the hall a little girl, a *gray* Sir Richard's, about six or seven *ye* She looked at Mr. Rogers, and was *m* with his venerable appearance ; and naturally fond of children, got her *on* and made a great deal of her, and *she* of him.

8. At last, Sir Richard sent one of wants to inform the company that one witnesses was fallen sick, and could not present that day ; and therefore warned anew to come on another day which he named them. Accordingly they came, and the as the justice called it, being proved, he ordered their *mittimus* to be written to send them to gaol.

9. Mr. Rogers before he came, expected to see the little girl again, had brought some meats to give her ; and he was not disappointed for she came running to him, and was more fond of him than she was before.

10. She was, it seems, a particular favorite of her grandfather, and had gotten such an affection over him, that he could deny her nothing. She was, withal a child of a violent spirit, and could bear no contradiction, as she was in in every thing.

11. Once it seems, when she was contrary in something, she run a pen-knife into her neck, which had near cost her either her life, or loss of her arm. After which, Sir Richard would not suffer her to be contradicted in anything.

12. While she was sitting on Mr. R

as, and eating the sweet-meats which he
her, she looked wishfully on him, and said,
"What are you here for, Sir?" He answered,
"Believe your grandfather is going to send me,
my friends whom you see here, to gaol."

6. "To gaol!" says she; "why, what have
done?" "I have done nothing," said he,
"I preach at such a place; and they have
nothing but hear me." "But, says she,
grandpapa shan't send you to gaol."

7. "Ah, but, my dear," said he, "I believe
now making out our *mittimus* to send us all
e." She ran immediately to the chamber
where her grandfather was, and knocked with
head and heels till she got in, and said,
"What are you going to do with my good old
leman here in the hall?"

8. "That is nothing to you," said her grand-
father: "get you about your business." "But
not," says she; "he tells me that you are
going to send him and his friends to gaol; and
you send them, I will drown myself in the
lake, as soon as they are gone, I will, indeed."
9. When he saw the girl was resolute and
determined, it shook him, and overcame even
his wicked design he had formed, to persecute
servants of the Lord.

10. He stepped into the hall, with the *mittimus*
in his hand, and said, "I had here made out your
mittimus to send you all to gaol, as you deserve;
but at my grandchild's request, I fall from the
execution, and set you all at liberty."

11. They all bowed, and thanked his worship.
12. Mr. Rogers stepped up to the child, and

laid his hand upon her head ; and lifting up his eyes to heaven, he said, " God bless you, my dear child, may the blessings of that God, whose cause you now did plead, though as yet you know him not, be upon you in life, at death, and throughout eternity." And then he and his friends went away.

19. Mrs. Tooty listened, with uncommon attention to the story ; and looking on Mr. Rogers, said, " And are you that Mr. Rogers's son ?" " Yes, madam," answered he, " I am." " Well," says she, " for as long as I have been acquainted with you, I never knew that before."

20. " And now I will tell you something you never knew before : I am the very girl your dear father blessed, in the manner you have now related. It made an impression on me I could never forget." Upon this double discovery, Mr. Rogers and Mrs. Tooty found they had an additional tie of love and affection to each other, beyond what they had before.

21. And then he, and Mr. Bradbury, were desirous of knowing how she, who had been bred up with an aversion to dissenters, and to serious religion, came now to make such a figure among them, and to be so eminent for piety. She complied with their request, and very freely told them her story.

22. She said, that after her grandfather's death, she was left sole heiress of his great estate ; and being in the bloom of youth, and having none to controul her, she ran after all the *fashionable diversions* of the time in which she *lived*, without any manner of restraint.

But at the end of them all, she confessed he found a dissatisfaction with herself and which she did not know how to get rid of, running the same fruitless round over and again: but still in vain. She contracted slight illness, upon which she thought she go to Bath, as hearing that *that* was a place asure, as well as health.

When she came there, she was led, in dence, to consult a physician, who happen- be a very worthy, religious man. He in- l, what she ailed? "Why," says she, "Doc- don't ail much, as to my body, but I have an y mind that I cannot get rid of."

"Truly" says he, "Miss, I was so too, met with a book that cured me of it." ks!" says she, "I get all the books I can y hands on—all the plays, novels, and ro- s I can hear of; but after I have read my uneasiness is the same."

"That may be," said he, "Miss, I dont er at it. But this book I speak of, I can it what I can say of no other I ever read, er tire of reading it; but can begin to read n, as if never before. And I always see hing new in it."

"Pray," says she, "Doctor, what book :?" "Nay, Miss," answered he, "that is a I don't tell to every one." "But could get a sight of that book?" says she. ," says he, "Miss, if you speak me fair, help you to it." "Pray get it for me, Doctor, and I will give you any thing you "

28. "Yes," says he, "if you will me one thing, I will bring it to you; is, that you will read it over carefully; you should not see much in it at first, will give it a second reading."

29. She promised faithfully she would after raising her curiosity, by coming thrice without bringing it, he at last brought it out of his pocket, and gave it to her. It was a New Testament. When she looked at it she said, "Poh!" (with a flirt) "I could at any time."

30. "Why, Miss, so you might," replied the Doctor; "but remember I have your promise, that you will read it carefully," says she, "though I never read it before, I will give it a reading."

31. Accordingly she began to read. The book soon attracted her attention. She saw in it, which she had a deep concern in; was uneasy in her mind before, she was more so now; she did not know what to do for herself. So she got away back to London, but the diversions there would do her all was in vain.

32. She was lodged at the court-town, and had a gentlewoman with her for a companion. One Saturday evening she dreamed that she was in a place of worship, and heard a sermon, which she could understand nothing of, when she awaked, but the dream made such an impression on her mind, that the idea she had of the parson's face, was as strong as

been acquainted with both, for a number of years.

33. She told her dream to her companion, on the Lord's day morning; and after breakfast, said she was resolved to go in quest of it, if she should go from one end of London to the other. Accordingly they sat out, and went into this and the other church, as they passed along; but none of them answered to what she saw in her dream.

34. About one of the clock, they found themselves in the heart of the city; and they went into an eating-house, and had a bit of dinner; and out again in search of this place. About half an hour after two, they were in the Poultry, and she saw a great many people going down the old Jewry; and she determined she would see where they were going.

35. She mixed herself among them, and they carried her to the Old Jewry Church. So soon she entered the door of it, and looked about, she turned to her companion, and said, with some surprise, "This is the very place I saw in my dream."

36. She had not stood long, till Mr. Shower, who was the minister of the place, went up into the pulpit; and so soon as she looked upon him, with greater surprise still, she said, "This is the very man I saw in my dream; and if every part of it hold true, he will take that for his text, Ps. 116. 7. *Return unto thy rest, O my soul, for the Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee.*"

When he rose to pray, she was all attention

and every sentence went to her heart finished prayer, he took that for his there God met with her soul in a manner ; and she, at last, obtained what she long sought for in vain elsewhere, rest, soul in Him, who is the life and happiness of souls.

*** The foregoing account of Mr. Rogers. Mrs. Tooley is sufficiently authenticated gentleman from whom the writer of the had it, the late Rev. Doctor Wood of Norway*

THE THORN BUSHES.

1. Mr. Stanhope and his son Gregory one evening, in the month of May, sitting at the foot of a delightful hill, and surveying the beautiful works of nature that surrounded them.
2. The declining sun, now sinking in the West, seemed to clothe every thing with a purple robe.—The cheerful song of a shepherd called off their attention from those delightful objects. This shepherd was driving his flock from the neighbouring fields.
3. Thorn-bushes grew on each side of the road, and every sheep that approached them was sure to be robbed of some part of its wool, which quite displeased little Gregory.
4. "Only see, Papa, said he, how the sheep are deprived of their wool by those bushes have often told me that nothing was so

vain ; but these briars seem made only for mischief ; people should therefore join to destroy them root and branch.

5. " Were the poor sheep to come often this way, they would be robbed of all their clothing. But that shall not be the case, for I will rise with the sun to-morrow morning, and with my little bill-hook and snip-snap, I will level all these briars with the ground.

6. " You may come with me, Papa, if you please, and bring with you an axe. Before breakfast, we shall be able to destroy them all."

7. Mr. Stanhope replied, " We must not go about this business in too great a hurry, but take a little time to consider upon it ; perhaps there may not be so much cause for being angry with these bushes, as you at present seem to imagine.

8. Have you not seen the owners of sheep, with a great pair of shears in their hands, take from their flocks all their wool, not being contented with a few locks only ?

Gregory allowed that to be true. But they do it, said he, in order to make clothes ; whereas the hedges rob the sheep, without having the least occasion for their wool, and evidently for no useful purpose.

10. If it be useful for sheep to lose their clothing, at a certain time of the year, then it is much better to take it for our own advantage, than to suffer the hedges to pull it off for no end whatever.

11. Mr. Stanhope allowed the arguments of *little Gregory* to be just ; for nature has given

to every beast a clothing, and ~~we are o~~
 them to borrow our own, other~~wi~~^{ise}
 be forced to go naked, and should ~~be~~
 the inclemency of the elements.

12. "Very well, papa, (said Gregory) ~~we~~
 we want clothing, yet these bushes ~~w~~
 they rob us of what we have need, and ~~d~~
 down they shall come, with to-morrow ~~th~~
 rising sun. And I dare say, papa, you ~~mo~~
 along with me and assist me."

13. Mr. Stanhope could not but consent,
 little Gregory thought himself nothing
 than an Alexander, merely from the expe
 ction of destroying at once this formidable b
 of robbers.

14. He could hardly sleep, being so much
 en up with the idea of his victories, to which
 next morning was to be a witness.

15. The cheerful lark had hardly begun
 proclaim the approach of morning, when G
 gory got up, and ran to awake his papa.

16. Mr. Stanhope, though he was ~~very~~
 ferent concerning the fate of the thorn-~~be~~
 yet he was not displeased with having an opp
 tunity, of showing his little Gregory the beau
 of the rising sun.

17. They both dressed themselves im
 diately, took the necessary instruments, and
 out on this important expedition. Young G
 gory marched forwards with such hasty ste
 that Mr. Stanhope was obliged to exert him
 to avoid being left behind.

18. When they came near to the bank
 they observed a multitude of little birds &

d out of them, and nimbly hopping from branch to branch.—On seeing this, Mr. Stanhope stopped his son, and desired him to suspend vengeance a little time, that they might not hurt these innocent birds.

With this view they retired to the foot of the hill, where they had sat the preceding evening, and from thence examined more particularly what had occasioned this apparent bustle among the birds.

And now they plainly saw that they were employed in carrying away those bits of wool from their beaks, which the bushes had torn from the sheep the evening before. Here there was a multitude of different sorts of birds, and all busied themselves with the plunder.

Gregory was quite astonished at this, and asked his papa what could be the meaning of it. “You by this plainly see, (replied Mr. Stanhope) that Providence provides for the creatures of every kind, and furnishes them with all things necessary for their convenience and preservation.

“Here the poor birds find what is necessary for their habitations, wherein they are to live and rear their young, and with this they have a comfortable bed for themselves and their family.

“The innocent thorn-bush, against which yesterday so loudly exclaimed, you see now does the greatest service to the inhabitants of the air. It takes from those only that are rich, they can very well spare, in order to satisfy the wants of the poor.

24. "Have you now any wish to cut bushes down, which you find to answer so full a purpose?" Gregory shook his head said, he would not cut them down for world.

25. Mr. Stanhope applauded his son for saying; and after enjoying the sweets of morning, they returned home to breakfast, leaving the bushes to flourish in peace, since made so generous a use of their conquests.

26. From this story we should be convinced of the impropriety of too hastily cherishing judices against any persons or things; since ever forbidding or useless they may, at first appear to be, a more familiar acquaintance with them may discover many uses and perfections which were before unobserved.

27. Sweet contemplation, come pursue
The scene presented to thy view;
The bleating herds, the lowing kine,
The spreading oak, the towering pine
The air from noxious vapours free,
Whilst squirrels trip from tree to tree
And the sweet songsters hover round,
Trees, herbs, and flowers, enrich the ground
And each their various fruits produce,
Some for delight, and some for use.

28. Behold! O youth, this scene, and see
What nature's God hath given thee. -
With wonder view his great designs,
In which superior wisdom shines:
Revere his name, admire his love,
And raise thy thoughts to worlds above.

*SIR JOHN DENHAM, AND HIS WORTHY
TENANT.*

1. One morning, Sir John Dennam, having shut himself up in his study on some particular business, his servant came to inform him that one of his tenants, farmer Harris, desired to speak with him.

2. Sir John told him to show the farmer into the drawing room, and to beg him to stay one moment, until he had finished writing a letter.

3. Sir John had three children, Robert, Arthur, and Sophia, who were in the drawing room when the farmer was introduced. As soon as he entered he saluted them very respectfully, though not with that ceremony which some people are accustomed to make use of.

The two sons looked at each other with a smile of contempt and disrespect. Indeed they behaved in such a manner that the poor farmer blushed, and was quite out of countenance.

5. Robert was so shamefully impertinent, as to walk round him holding his nose, and asking his brother if he did not perceive something of the smell of a dung heap? Then he lighted some paper at the fire, and carried it round the room, in order to disperse, as he said, the unpleasant smell. Arthur all the while stood laughing most heartily.

6. Sophia, however, acted in a very different manner; for instead of imitating the rudeness

of her brothers, she checked behaviour, made apologies for mer, and approached him with pleasant looks, offered him some him, made him sit down, and stick to put by.

7. In a little time Sir John study and approaching the farm manner, took him by the hand the health of his family, and brought him to town.

8. The farmer replied, that pay him a half a year's rent, as he would not be displeased at sooner, the roads having been could not till then bring his c

9. Sir John told him he wa at his not coming sooner ; beca to be an honest man, who had r put in mind of his debts.

10. The farmer then put down drew out of his great-coat pocket fruits. " I have brought some he) for the young folks.

11. " Won't you be so kind let them come out, one of these a mouthful of the country air will well as I could to entertain and have two good stout nags, and them myself, and take them in a wheeled chaise, which will carry, I'll warrant it."

12. Sir John said, that he *take an opportunity to pay him*

vited him to stay to dinner ; but the farmer excused himself, saying, he had a great deal of business to do in town, and wished to get home before night.

13. Sir John filled his pocket with cakes for his children, thanked him for the present he had made to his, and then took leave of him.

14. No sooner was the farmer gone, than Sophia, in the presence of her brothers, acquainted her papa of the very rude reception they gave the honest farmer. Sir John was exceedingly displeased with their conduct, and much applauded Sophia for her different behaviour.

15. Sir John, being seated at breakfast, with his children, opened the farmer's jar of fruits, and he and his daughter ate some of them, which they thought were very nice ; but Robert and Arthur were neither of them invited to a single taste.

16. Their longing eyes were fixed upon them ; but their father instead of taking any notice of them, continued conversing with Sophia, whom he advised never to despise a person merely for the plainness of his dress ; " for (said he) we are to behave politely to those only who

that he and my other tenants bring in, enabled me to do these things.

18. Breakfast being finished, the remainder of the fruit was ordered to be locked up : but Robert and his brother, whose longing eyes followed the jar, clearly saw they were to have none of them. In this they were confirmed by their father, who told them not to expect to taste any of those fruits, either on that or any future day.

19. Robert endeavoured to excuse himself, by saying, that it was not his fault if the farmer did not smell well ; and he thought there was no harm in telling him of it. If people will go among dung they must expect to smell of it.

20. " And yet, (said Sir John) if this man were not to manure his land with dung, his crops would fail him, he would not be able to pay his rent, and you yourself would perhaps have to follow a dung-cart." The two boys saw displeasure in their papa's countenance, and therefore did not presume to say any thing more.

21. Early on a morning shortly after, the good farmer came to Sir John Denham's door, and sent up his compliments, kindly inviting him to make a little excursion to his farm. Sir John could not resist the friendly invitation, as a refusal might perhaps have made the honest farmer uneasy.

22. Robert and Arthur begged very hard to go along with them, promising to behave more civilly in future, and Sophia begging for them likewise, Sir John at last consented.

23. They then mounted the four wheeled chaise, with joyful countenances and as the farmer had a pair of good horses, they were there in a short time.

24. On their arrival, Mrs. Harris, the farmer's wife came to the door to receive them, helped the young gentlefolks out of the chaise and kissed them. All their little family, dressed in their best clothes, came out to compliment their visitors.

25. When they went in, they found the coffee already poured out; it was placed on a table covered with a napkin as white as snow. The coffee-pot indeed, was not silver, nor the cups china, yet every thing was in the neatest order.

26. Mrs. Harris made an apology to the children for the humble style in which her table was set out, which she owned could not be equal to what they met with, at their own house; but she hoped they would not be dissatisfied with her homely fare.—The cakes she produced were excellent, for she spared no pains in making them.

27. As soon as breakfast was over, the farmer asked Sir John to look at his orchard and grounds, and Mrs. Harris took all the pains she could to make the walk pleasing to the children.

28. She showed them all her flock which covered the fields, and gave them the prettiest lambs to play with. She then conducted them to her pigeon house, where every thing was clean and neat. There was some so young

that they were unable to fly : some of the others were sitting on their eggs, and others employed in feeding their young ones.

29. From the pigeon house they proceeded to the bee-hives : but Mrs. Harris took care the children should not go too near them for fear of being stung.

30. Most of these sights being new to the children, they seemed highly pleased with them, and were even going to take a second view of them when the farmer's youngest son came to inform them that dinner was ready.

31. The table furniture was all very plain and simple ; but Robert and Arthur, finding themselves so well pleased with their morning walk and with the kindness which they met with, had no disposition to make ill-natured observations. Mrs. Harris, indeed, had spared no pains to provide every thing in the best manner possible.

32. Sir John, after dinner, perceiving the fiddles hang up against the wall, asked who owned those instruments. The farmer answered he and his son ; and without saying a word he made a sign to his son Luke to take down the fiddles.

33. They by turns played some of the tunes with which Sir John seemed highly pleased ; they were going to hang up the instruments when John desired his two sons to play some of the best tunes, putting the fiddles into their hands, but they knew not even how to hold them, and their confusion occasioned much laugh.

34. Sir John, now thinking it time to return home, desired the farmer to order the carriage. —Farmer Harris strongly pressed Sir John to stay all night, but the farmer was at last obliged to submit to Sir John's excuses.

35. On his return home, he asked his son Robert how he liked his entertainment, and what he should have thought of the farmer, if he had not taken pains to entertain them.

36. He replied, that he liked his entertainment, but that if he had not taken pains to accommodate them, he should have thought him an unmannerly clown. "Ah, Robert! Robert! (said Sir John) this honest man came to our house, and instead of offering him any refreshment, you made game of him. Which then is the best bred, you or the farmer."

37. Robert blushed, and seemed at a loss what answer to make; but at length replied, that it was his duty to receive them well, as he got his living from their hands. "That is true (answered Sir John) but it may be easily seen who derives the greatest benefit from my lands.

38. He, indeed feeds his horses with hay which he gets from my meadows, but his horses in return plough the fields, which otherwise would be overrun with weeds.

39. He also feeds his cows and sheep with the hay: but they again are useful in enriching the ground. His wife and children are fed with the grain; but they in return devote the summer to weeding the crops, and afterwards in reaping, and threshing.

40. All these labours end in my advantage. The rest of the hay and corn he takes to the market to sell, and with the money he pays the rent. From this it is evident that I am no less indebted to the farmer than he is to me."

41. Here a long pause ensued; but at last Robert confessed that he was in an error. "Remember then, all your life (said Sir John) the lesson you have now learned. And consider how unjust it is to despise any one for the plainness of his dress, and the simplicity of his manners."

42. You may perhaps understand a little Latin but you know not how to plough, or sow, or even to prune a tree. Sit down, therefore, with being convinced that you have despised your superior."

THE LITTLE PRATER.

1. Leonora was endued with spirit and vivacity. When scarcely eight years old, she was exceedingly well practised in the art of managing her needle, and could very cleverly employ her scissors.

2. All the stockings that she and her little brothers wore, were of her knitting. She could read with ease in any book she happened to take up: her writing was also extremely neat and fair.

3. She did not huddle her letters all together nor did she lean some this way, and others the

ly : and her lines went straight along, and not ncing up and down, as too often I have seen in ildren's copy-books, even older by a year or o than Leonora.

4. Her papa too, and mamma, were no less isfied with her obedience, than her masters th her diligence and study.

5. She lived in perfect union with her brothers d sisters, and treated every servant with the eatest affability, and her companions with friend- ip and condescension.

6. Who would think that with so many good alities, and so much understanding, any little l could possibly be so unfortunate, that none, en they became acquainted at the house could ar her.

7. Such was Leonora, notwithstanding : for single fault which she had contracted destroy- the effect of all her agreeable accomplish- ents.

8. The intemperance of her tongue made eve- one forget the graces of her understanding and e goodness of her disposition. In short, Leo- ra was an intolerable prater.

9. When, for instance, she was sitting down work, one might have heard her say, O ho ! fancy 'tis high time I should be doing some- ng ! What would my mamma say, should she d me sitting with my arms across, and lolling my elbows ?

10. Let me see ; how much have I got to m here ? all this apron ! I shall, however, soon ve done. There the clock strikes : one, two,

ult : but reproof seemed to be lost upon her, or would any correction produce a reformation of her conduct.

17. As it was not possible to hear any one else, when she was nigh, Miss Chatterbox was then sent to pass the morning all alone in her apartment.

18. And during dinner, they were obliged to sit her at a little table by herself, a distance from the company. Leonora seemed afflicted at this separation, but still she was not reformed.

19. She always had something to talk about even with herself: and I verily believe, that rather than be silent, she would enter into conversation with her knife and fork.

20. From such a foolish habit, what advantage did she get? She got nothing, indeed, but punishment and hatred. If you should not be convinced of this, by what I have already mentioned, you will certainly be so when you read what follows.

21. Once upon a time, her parents were invited to go out and visit a friend, in the next town, and stay a week or two. It was autumn then, the weather was extremely fine, and you cannot conceive what an abundance there was of all kinds of fruit, pears, apples, nectarines and peaches.

22. Leonora expected that it was designed to make her one of the party, but was very much surprised, when her papa directed both her sisters to get ready for the journey, but told her that she must stay at home.

23. She fell a crying, ran to her mamma, and

said, my dear mamma, what fault have I committed, that papa should be so angry with me ?

24. Your papa, she answered, is not angry with you ; but believe me, 'tis impossible for one to bear with your constant chatter. I should surely interrupt our pleasure, and the pleasure of the family we are going to visit, and therefore, for the future, when we go abroad, we must leave you behind us.

25. Must I never speak, then ? replied Leonora. That, said her mamma, would be no less a fault than what we wish to see you cured of. You are not to be entirely mute ; but then you ought to wait till you perceive your turn for speaking is come, and not perpetually prevent your parents, and those who have more experience than yourself, from talking.

26. You should also take care how you say whatever comes into your head. When you desire to be informed of a thing, 'tis not improper you should know how you ought to ask, employing as few words as possible ; and having any thing to tell, you should, in that case, first of all reflect, within yourself, whether those about you would, or would not like to know it.

27. Leonora, though she could not reasonably call in question this advice, would not have wanted words to justify her prating, if she had not heard her papa call out, that moment, every thing was ready ; and, in fact, the carriage was off that very instant.

28. Leonora fell to crying, and with tears pursued the carriage, till her eye could no longer

scern it. When it was out of sight, she went into a corner, and wept most bitterly.

Ah! babbling gossip! she began, (now talking to herself,) 'tis owing all to my long silence, that I am thus punished. I'll take care, that it shall never speak a word more unwelcome.

Some few days after they returned. Leonora's sisters brought home with them baskets of pears and apples.

They were both extremely well tempered therefore Leonora would, on no account, have one without her share; but then the tears she had been shedding so completely took away her appetite, that 'tis not to be wondered at that she did not wish for any.

She ran to her papa, imploring his pardon for her fault, in having forced him thus to leave her. For the future, said she, I will endeavour not to speak too much. Her father then embraced and kissed her.

On the morrow, Leonora was permitted to go down and take her dinner with the rest. She ate but very little, and whatever she pretended to say was exceedingly proper and modest. The first day it cost her very much to keep her tongue, which, through impatience and the itch for talking, rolled, if I may say so, out of her mouth, and that way, in her mouth.

But on the day following, the work was finished, and the next day, still less so; until at length, her bad habit was completely done away, and she became so modest and reserved, that she was in the love of all who knew her.

THE BIRD'S EG

1. Little George was fond of wood that bordered on his father's. This wood was formed of little trees very near each other, and two [unclear] through it.

2. One day as he walked up [unclear] thought that he would rest himself. He put his back against a tree, which was slender, and which therefore shed its branches, when his back first [unclear]

3. As it chanced, the rustling of a poor little bird, which therefore [unclear] neighbouring bush, and flew away. It was [unclear] and was grieved.

4. He fixed his eye upon the [unclear] would not return; and while he was considering it, he thought he [unclear] branches at a spot where they [unclear] one another, something like a tu [unclear]

5. His curiosity induced him to [unclear] and examine it. He found this [unclear] hollow like a porringer: he [unclear] branches, and saw certain little [unclear] oval shape and spotted.—They [unclear] side each other on a layer of gr [unclear]

6. Surely this, says George, [unclear] have heard some people call [unclear] these balls are eggs. They [unclear] little, but the bird is little also. [unclear] design to bear away the nest; [unclear] thoughts, he was contented with [unclear] so having taken it, he ran hom [unclear]

In his way, he met his sister, and thus addressed her ; See this little egg. I found it in a .—There were five others with it. Let me : it in my hand, said the little girl. She examines it, returns it to her brother, and then asks a second time to have it.

In the end they roll it up and down the table just as if it had been a ball. One shoves it one way, the other pushes it another way, till, in midst of their diversion, it falls down and breaks. They cry, and mutually accuse each other as the cause of their misfortune.

Their mother, happening to hear them complaining and weeping, came in to see what was the matter. Both began at once

1. She heard their different stories, and then sitting down, and calling them to her, she said, be comforted dear children. That you have broken an egg between you is a small misfortune, and does not much grieve you, since you did not intend to do so.

2. I might, notwithstanding, blame you, my dear, with justice, for the act of bringing it into the nest. This egg would soon have become a little bird, which you have now killed by bringing it away.

3. The bird which you saw fly out of the bush, belongs to the mother. When she comes again to her nest, she will find that one egg is wanting, and will forsake it altogether. This is frequent in such a case.

Perhaps the loss of but a single egg informed them that their asylum was discovered

They have every thing to be afraid of violence of man. They guess that ~~the~~ little ones are hatched, he that has al~~re~~bed them, will return and seize upon ~~the~~ family.

14. If then this nest, which you have robbed, should be totally abandoned—would you not be sorry for it?

15. Yes, mamma, indeed, replied the George: and I am sorry I laid hands upon egg; but then I did not know any thing; you have been telling us; and thought harm in bringing it to show my sisters, was all I meant to do.

16. I can easily believe you, my child, mother. Should you do bad actions for sure some suppose there is in doing that would in that case, be very wicked, and be quite sorry that I had such a son.

17. Mamma, said the little girl, the I have seen it, out of which my brother egg, is not in the least like those swallows we see about the roofs.

18. Henrietta, said the mother, every not alike, nor yet is every bird alike. not known to perch on trees; and often all times, upon them. Some are large and bold, others small and full of industry.

19. Some are beautiful beyond ~~the~~ *their* plumage, which has half a dozen ~~others~~ *others* are all of one colour. Some ~~some~~ *some* go in quest of insects, and ~~others~~ *others* seize on smaller birds and

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20. Ah, the wicked creatures ! answered rietta : I dont like these last, and should be to spoil their nests.

21. So too would many others, said the one's mamma ; and therefore those great that devour the less, build their nests in places which cannot easily be come at ; as for instance in the woods, and in the holes of rocks, where men appear but very seldom ; and on very high trees, beyond our reach, however skilful we may be in climbing.

22. Therefore, since these birds are very different from each other, it is but reasonable that they should have nests different. Thus the lark that never lives in any tree, but sings as you have heard her, mounting in the air, constructs her nest on the ground.

23. The swallow builds about the roofs of houses under what we call the eaves ; the owl, that people only hear by night, seeks out deserted habitations, or some hollow tree, to put her eggs in ; and the eagle, which flies above the clouds till it is absolutely out of sight, provides place for its young ones, in the cliffs of craggy rocks.

24. The birds which live round about us, make their nests in trees and hedges. Those which live by the water, and which find their food within the water, and which find their food within the water, build their nests among rushes that grow near the shore on little islands, and at times upon the shore

I suppose you have observed these little birds when they have been busy in selecting materials of which they compose their

nest. One you have observed carrying a straw ; another having in his beak some wood feathers, or dried leaves ; and very probably third some moss.

26. The swallow you have seen, by the border of a stream, moistening a little bit of earth which he has taken in his beak, with which he builds his habitation.

27. Such materials as are very coarse and solid they will take to form the outside of their nests but line them with the softest, and the warmest. Nay, there are some birds that pull out their own feathers, to make up that comfortable bed, which their little ones are to repose on.

28. Some hang their nests by a sort of thread which they have the skill to form of flax, of different sorts of weeds, and of the webs of spiders ; others lodge them in the forks of trees ; and they do what they can to make them strong, and secure them from those enemies which they stand in fear of.

29. In these nests they lay their eggs. The mother, and at times the father, sits upon them with admirable perseverance.

30. They are taught by nature, that the warmth proceeding from their bodies puts every thing within these eggs in motion, and produces their young, which at last are strong enough to break the shell that holds them, and come forth.

31. When the mother sits alone, her male will bring her victuals, and sit by to please her with his music. When the little ones are hatched, they do every thing to nourish and defend them.

2. They go very far indeed to get their food, make an equal distribution of it, every one giving in its turn what they bring home. As as they are very young and helpless, they strive to bring them victuals suited to their state: but when once they are grown up, they provide them with food more .
3. There is one, and that a very large one, and the *pelican*, which being forced to go a great distance in quest of victuals for her young, is provided with a sort of bag.
4. She fills it with such aliment as she is sent by their love; she warms what she procures, renders it by this means fitter for their tender stomachs; and then she returns and empties it between them.
5. Thus whilst they are parents, they forget that they want food themselves, and seem to think of their little family. If either tempest or rain comes, they hurry to their nest, and shelter it as well as they are able, with their outstretched wings, so keeping out the wind and weather that might hurt the brood.
6. All night too, they sit and cherish the little creatures, lest the dampness of the sky should injure them. And the fearfulest of all fowl, that will fly away if they hear but the slightest noise, and tremble at the least degree of danger, yet not what fear is, when they have a family to care for, but become courageous and undaunted.
7. Thus it is with the common hen. As solitary, she is a coward as she is when by herself, she

grows a heroine, and an example of *audacity* when she has a brood to defend from danger. attacks the greatest dog, and will not even *fear* man, if he attempts to take her young ones *away* from her.

38. So also do the little birds endeavour *to defend* their young, when any one would steal or hurt them. They will flutter round the nest, will seem to call out for assistance, will attack the invader, and pursue him to a distance.

39. If their young ones are taken and shut up in a cage, they will continue to come regularly and feed them.

40. Poor dear little birds ! cried the children, how we will in future love you ! Never, in time to come, depend upon it, will we be so cruel as to do you any harm. We will only look on your nests, without disturbing them, or robbing them of their eggs.

41. We will be satisfied with gazing on you, while employed in the delightful task of tending your young, until we see your little family all flying around their parents.

42. Yes, dear children, said the mother, so you should do. Keep your resolution as you ought, and I shall love you. Never injure any creature if you can help it, nor occasion the least degree of pain for pleasure's sake.

43. Consider that the great Creator did *not* make these creatures for us to torment, but that we might see his wisdom in them, and use them with justice and tenderness, as we should wish to be used, if we were in their place.

44. So saying, she left her children, who were very much pleased with the instruction he had given them.

THE PEDLAR AND HIS ASS.

1. It was noon day, and the sun shone intensely bright, when a pedlar, who was driving his ass, laden with the choicest Burslem ware, stopped upon Delemere forest, to take some refreshment. He sat down upon the turf, and after consuming the provisions in his satchel, emptied his dram bottle, and then composed himself to sleep.

2. But the ass, which had travelled many a wearisome mile, without tasting a morsel of food, remained muzzled by his side, wistfully viewing the blossoms of furze, which grew in great abundance around him. Fatigue and heat, however, overpowered the sensations of hunger, and drowsiness stole upon him.

3. He kneeled down, and doubling his legs under him, rested upon his belly, in such a position, that each of the panniers which he carried, touched the ground, and was securely supported by it. But his slumbers were of short duration.

4. An angry hornet, whose nest had been that morning destroyed, perched upon his back and stung him to the quick. Roused by the smart, he suddenly sprung up, and by his violent motion, produced a loud jarring of the earthen ware.

5. The pedlar awaked in co
snatching his whip, began to la
merciless fury. The poor bea
stripes, and was heard of no mor
were thrown of; and the Bursle
tirely demolished. Thus did ir
ness and passion, meet with de
ment.

6. Had the pedlar remember
hunger of his beast, when he gra
or had he pursued with diligen
after finishing his repast, no part
tunes would have befallen him
would have been small, if he ha
just severity, and blind passion,
ruin, by lashing the blameless an

7. A merciful man, says Solo
the life of his beast; and peop
make it a rule, not to punish a
or indeed to do any thing else in
by so doing, they not only comm
greatly injure themselves.

THE ROVLING FISH

1. Sophronia and her son were
ing's walk. The path which th
them to a beautiful pond. This
plied with water by a murmuring
charged itself through a conceale
neighbouring brook.

2. Having reached the man

stopped to gaze at the sportive fishes, gliding in all directions, with graceful ease, through the yielding element. But a large tench was rved to remain in one unvaried position, as if pified with pain, or overwhelmed with sor-

Were fishes capable of reflection, said Sonia, I should imagine, that the tench we looking at, is mourning the folly and calamity of her offspring. And what, said Junius, led you to form a supposition so singular? e any unusual misfortunes happened to this nunity of fishes?

Last week, said Sophronia, a sudden and common swell of the brook raised the water his pond above its level; and three young hes eagerly took the opportunity of escape over the grate, and quitted with joy their nement, to which they had for some time ntiently submitted.

They swam down the stream exulting in liberty, and were just entering a spacious pond, which promised every gratification heir boundless wishes, when a ravenous seized upon the foremost, and terrified the rs with the apprehension of dangers before own.

The shallows of the pool were now sought security: but the flood having damaged the , the water rapidly discharged itself. One e remaining tenches was left in a hollow to a painful and lingering death; the other imed by hunger, swallowed a bait, and became rey of a fisherman.

7. Thus perished these unfortunate, affording us a lesson of instruction, comfortably provided for, we ought to content with our situation and circumspect lest by changing them, we rush into dangers.

SISTERLY UNITY AND LOVE

1. Observe those two hounds, that are together, said Euphronius to Lucy and who were looking through the window they torment each other, by a disagreement their pursuits ! One is for moving slowly the other vainly urges onward.

2. The larger dog now sees some one attempts him on this side, and mark how his companion along, who is exerting efforts to pursue a different route. They will continue all day at variance, pursuing each other in opposite directions, when they are by kind and mutual compliances, pass merrily, and happily.

3. Lucy and Sophia joined in the folly and ill-nature of these dogs : and Euphronius expressed a tender wish, that he never see any thing similar in their behaviour.

4. Nature, said he, has linked you together by the near equality of your ages ; by your common relation to the same parents ; by the dearest ties of sisterhood ; and by all other affections, which you have been

el for each other. Let these silken cords of mutual love continue to unite you in the same pursuits.

5. Suffer no allurements to draw you different ways ; suffer no jarring passions to distract your friendship : nor admit any selfish views or hateful jealousies to render those bonds uneasy and oppressive, which are now your ornament, your strength, and highest happiness.

6. *Whatever brawls disturb the street,
There should be peace at home,
Where sisters dwell and brothers meet,
Quarrels should never come.*

*Birds in their little nests agree,
And 'tis a shameful sight,
When children of one family,
Fall out, and chide, and fight.*

THE TIGER AND THE ELEPHANT.

1. In one of the deserts of Africa, a tiger of uncommon size, strength, and fierceness, committed the most dreadful ravages. He attacked every animal he met with, and was never satisfied with blood and slaughter.

2. Resistance served only to increase his ferocity ; and passive timidity, to multiply his victims. When the forest afforded him no prey, he stalked near a fountain of water, and seized with

indiscriminate fury, upon the various *beasts* came to drink.

3. It happened one day, that an elephant ped to quench his thirst at the stream, *when* tiger lay concealed in the adjoining thicket sight of a creature so stupendous, instead straining, rather incited his rapacity.

4. He compared his own agility with the wieldy bulk of the elephant ; and trusting that should find him as unfit to fight, as he was he bounded towards him, and snatched, with jaws, at his proboscis.

5. The elephant instantly contracted his great presence of mind : and receiving the rious beast on his tusks, tossed him up : siderable height into the air. Stunned with fall, the tiger lay motionless some time ; and generous elephant disdaining to take revenge left him to recover from his bruises.

6. When the tiger came to himself, (like aggressor in every quarrel) he was enraged at the repulse ; and pursuing his injured and joyful adversary, he again assaulted him with doubled violence.

7. The resentment of the elephant was roused ; he wounded the tiger with his trunk and then beat him to death with his trunk.

8. Does the ferocity of the tiger merit honourable appellation of courage ? Or will not rather apply that character to the caution and trepidity of the inoffensive elephant ? Most certainly you will ; for true courage is ever *in repelling*, not in offering injuries.

INDUSTRY AND SLOTH.

1. Industry and Sloth were inhabitants of the village, and very near neighbours : yet the difference of their dispositions and conduct was so great that they carefully avoided each other.

2. As they had formerly been servants to her, in a family where I frequently visited. As Providence had now brought me near their dwellings, I had an inclination to call and inquire after their welfare, and see their children, as they had both been sometime married.

3. It having been my custom, for a number of years, to take a short walk before breakfast, I went out one morning in the month of May, to visit these families. The morning was very pleasant, and in half an hour, I reached the cottage of Industry.

4. Nothing could have exceeded my surprise and pleasure, at the neatness every where discernible.—I walked up the yard, upon a clean brick pavement, and as I drew near, the good man of the house opened the door to welcome me to her habitation.

5. Here peace and plenty, order and regularity seemed to reign throughout. I was desired to take a chair, and as I sat down, the children who were neatly dressed, and prepared thus early for school, rose up from their seats, and went forward to pay me their respects.

6. The village clock struck eight, as a summons for the children to repair to school ; but Mary and Louisa first obtained their mother's

permission to run into the garden for the flower for the stranger.

7. They soon returned with a collection of such flowers as their garden afforded at that season, which they presented with courtesy and a smile. They were then sent to school, except the old woman, Nancy, who was needed to assist in the family.

8. As I had another visit to make, and had promised to return by the next day, I was obliged to depart sooner than I wished, not till Industry had showed me a room, which was equally neat in appearance, and stored with the necessaries and conveniences.

9. In the mean time, Nancy finished her business of the morning, and putting on her apron and sash, invited me to walk with her and herself, to the spring house, to see the women of her spinning, which was then in full operation at the spring.

10. This invitation I did not hesitate to accept, and I must confess, that I was extremely pleased with the sample of the work. It brought to my mind the words of king Lemuel concerning the prudent man :

11. *She seeketh wool and flax, and giveth willingly with her hands. She is like a ship, she bringeth her food from afar.*

12. *She layeth her hands to the distaff. She stretcheth out her hands to the poor : yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.*

13. *She is not afraid of the snow for her household; for all her household are clothed with scarlet. She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple.*

14. *Her husband is known in the gates when he sitteth among the elders of the land. She maketh fine linen, and selleth it; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant.*

15. *Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness.*

16. *She looketh well to the ways of her household and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, he praiseth her.*

17. *Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain; but a woman that feareth the Lord, shall be praised.*

These observations struck me so forcibly, turning to Nancy, I could not help repeating words, *Many daughters have done virtuously, thou excellest them all.*

She blushed, and thanked me for the compliment, but thought herself not the fittest person to give it. She said it was her first attempt to wheel, and she hoped she should improve, and became more accustomed to the busi-

ness. I had been so much amused at the spring that at the clock struck nine before I reflected that I had outstayed my time. We therefore returned to their habitation, where I left

a few small presents for the children, and expects for their father, who was at his bour, and then took my leave, to visit the ing of Sloth.

25. I knocked at the gate a considerable before any one appeared ; at length a dirty woman came to the window, and en my business. I gave her my name, and her that I came with an intent to pay her ing visit, but as the day was so far ad I believed that I would defer it, until time.

22. But she recollected me, and had to shame to prevent me from being a spect her miserable abode. She opened the door insisted on my coming in.

23. My curiosity induced me to comply with her invitation. But what a scene was presented to my view ! How different from the one I just left ! It was now half past nine, and the family but just preparing for breakfast.

24. The first objects that presented themselves to my sight were their two children, Richard and Susan, sitting upon each end of a chair, while the mother sat on the floor. The girl was employed in tending the fire, to make the kettle boil ; while Richard who had just left his bed, was beginning to dress on his clothes.

25. In that shameful situation, he stood full in the face, as I entered the room ; but at length, to go out at the door, up went the curtain and down came poor Susan, with her bell on the floor.

27. At this moment, the fire also fell,

the kettle was placed ; the water flew plentifully upon Susan, but luckily it was not hot enough to scald her. It however put out all the fire, threw the mother into a passion and the house into an uproar ; so that I was glad to make my escape

27. The noise was heard at an huckster's shop, at some distance, where Mr. Sloth had gone, as is custom was, to get his morning dram, and from whence he was making his way home, when he met me in my flight.

28. Concluding that I had been the cause of the disturbance, at his house, he began to abuse me in the street ; but fortunately for me, he drank so freely, that I soon perceived, I had little to fear from him ; so I passed on and he went staggering home.

29. As I was returning, I could not help reflecting upon the many evils, which are brought upon mankind, by drunkenness and sloth. What sorrow and woe, what contention and strife, poverty and shame, misery and destruction, do not these vices bring upon families, which might otherwise have enjoyed all the comforts of life.

30. In the family of Sloth, we may behold the melancholy truth, that the sins of parents are often visited upon children : for Richard and Su-

32. In the army he soon found himself *comp* deprived as himself. These he *occasio* visited to visit his parents, who *then liv* the camp ; and one of them becoming *acc* with his sister, persuaded her to follow *th* where she was soon ruined and died *gar*.

33. As for Richard, being too idle and to submit to the duties of a soldier, and the *pl*ine of an army, he several times deserted *was* as often apprehended and severely *pu* At length he was put on board of a man of *spend* the remainder of his days.

34. And now let my young readers *par* reflect upon the unhappy end of poor *R* and Susan, and resolve to shun the vices *proved* so destructive to the whole *far* Sloth.

35. And let all those who would live a *respected* and happy, resolve to follow *tl* ample of industry. Let them be virtuous *perate*, prudent and persevering ; so *sha* not fall into want, nor feel the stings of *g* remorse.



DANIEL IN THE DEN OF LIONS

1. The Babylonian empire was one of the *extensive* and powerful in the ancient *Nebuchadnezzar*, one of its kings, *havin* *quered* Judea, had carried away *Daniel* *with many* other captives to Babylon ;

afterwards raised him, on account of his great wisdom, to the highest post in the government.

2. In this station Daniel continued during the long term of sixty-five years, till at length Babylon was taken, and Belshazzar, who was at the time its king, was slain by Darius, king of the Medes and Persians. An account of this may be seen in the fifth chapter of Daniel, in which is contained the remarkable description of the handwriting upon the wall.

3. Darius, having thus become king over an immense territory, began to take proper measures to secure his government. He divided the kingdom, therefore, into one hundred and twenty parts, over each of which he appointed a governor, and over these he placed three presidents, who were to superintend the whole affairs of the kingdom. At the head of these presidents we find the name of Daniel.

4. This is remarkable, whether we consider the nation to which he belonged, the religion which he professed, or the employment he formerly held.—His nation was that of the Jews, which was then in the highest disrepute ; his religion, though it was the true one, was accounted grossest superstition ; and his employment, as has been already observed, had been that of the minister to the monarch, whom Darius fought against, and at length dethroned.

Nay, it was probably owing to the counsels of Daniel, that Babylon had been able to resist, did, for near twenty years, the victorious

arms of the Persian king. What a was it to the great worth of Daniel, that queror could find no person more proper whom to entrust the chief concerns of the empire.

6. *Daniel*, as the scripture observe *ferred above the presidents and prince an excellent spirit was in him.* The of his *wisdom* appears from this, that was but twenty-two years old, he was above all the wise men of the east.

7. His wisdom even became proved therefore, while he was still a young prophet Ezekiel reproved the vanity and presumption of the king of Tyre, *who heart that he was even wiser than Daniel.*

8. And such also was the excellence of *ty*, that he was ranked, whilst living, with Job, those men of the highest eminence; it is declared of Jerusalem, in order to the greatness of her guilt, that God would spare her, *even though Noah, Job and Daniel in her.*

9. Surely no other person, in the course of life, ever had such honourable testimony to the excellence of the spirit which was in him.

10. *Then the presidents and prince find occasion against Daniel concerning wisdom; but they could find none occasion forasmuch as he was faithful; neither any error or fault found in him. Therefore the men, we shall not find any occasion to condemn Daniel except we find it against him contrary to the law of his God.*

11. No virtue is so great, no station so high, as to be free from envy. And we know the weakness of human nature, if we suppose, that those spirited captains and princes would bear to see a captive and a Jew preferred before them.

12. Daniel also was appointed to inspect the conduct, and to him they were to account *that which might have no damage*. No wonder, that they sought occasion against him.

13. But here is a fresh testimony to the worth of this illustrious man; that even they, whose anger and envy were so keen, could find no fault in him. What! when he had been prime minister of the largest empire in the world for sixty-five years, and his conduct was scrutinized with a jealous eye, could no instance of treachery or dishonesty be found in him?—

14. No. He was faithful in every thing which was committed to him. Yet there was, it seems, one part of his character, which gave his enemies some hope of finding occasion against him.

15. His attachment to his religion had been long observed; and they concluded, that if they could bring him into a situation, in which his adherence to his religion might be considered as a crime against the state, they should then be able to bring on his condemnation.

16. How does the character of Daniel rise higher and higher, the more we contemplate it! His enemies (and if Daniel had enemies) let no one flatter himself with the hope, that greatness and piety will secure him from envy—his enemies could find nothing upon

which to found their schemes for his dest but his piety. Upon his piety they were to for the success of their plots. What an did this put upon that great and good mar

17. We may observe here, that no s in life, no multiplicity of business, no el of rank, will excuse a man from attending duties of religion. For we see Daniel, li the midst of a most dissolute and lu court, bearing himself the chief burden vernment, and yet paying the most strict to religion.

18. Nay, it was this which enabled faithfully to discharge his duty to the state he not been so truly religious, there would less have been found some error or fault. No time is lost by prayer. No advantage ed by neglecting to seek the help and bl of God.

19. Did we but know the effect which regard to religion would have upon eve of our conduct, we should find that it w the best preservative against folly and vi would enable us to go through the most business with honour and integrity.

20. *Then these presidents and princes bled together to the king, and said thus unto King Darius, live forever! All the pr of the kingdom, the governors and the the counsellors and the captains have co together to establish a royal statute, and a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a of any god or man for thirty days, save the king, he shall be cast into the den of lion*

21. *Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not—Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree.*

22. Happy are we, who live under a government so much more just, and in times so much more enlightened, that none would think of proposing such an absurd and impious law. Yet, in that Eastern country, and in those ancient times, this law was, with respect to the king, one of the most artful pieces of flattery.

23. It seemed to intend nothing but the confirmation of his power, and the advancement of his glory. To forbid favours to be requested of any other, was to invite all to come to him. It may appear strange, indeed, to us, that all petitions should be forbidden to be made to any *god*, save to the king.

24. But if we consider the variety of gods worshipped in Babylon, most of whom were idols of wood and stone, we shall have less reason to wonder, that the impiety of the proposal did not shock a monarch flushed with extensive conquest.

25. The king therefore, being gratified with this distinguished honour, which all the presidents, the governors, the princes, the counselors, and the captains had agreed to pay him, readily signed the writing and the decree.

26. Doubtless the matter was known to Daniel, before the royal signature was obtained ; and the malicious purpose, which it was intended to answer, could not be hid from him.

27. Some also of the princes and there probably might be, who were consent willingly to this iniquitous ~~pr~~ they might be afraid of appearing to honour of the king, if they came for defence of his injured minister.

28. Thus no effectual opposition to the decree, and the destruction of D: ed to be inevitable.

29. It pleases God, many times, in dinary way, to try the faith of his servants. Let no man, therefore, re trials, however severe ; they may be of calling forth his grace, and purifying

30. And the more severe the trial, will be the victory, and the benefit, i persevere in our integrity and virtue.

31. Daniel was now placed in a situation. He knew his danger, and ble that the eyes of the whole kingdom upon him.

32. He might easily have prevented chief which his enemies thought He might have retired for thirty day country : or he might, at least, have for so short a time, the *open profes* religion ; and have worshipped God devoutly as ever.

33. This, however, he conceived shrinking from his duty. The glo and the honour of religion required th be open and bold at such a time as *that he should manifest an inviolable to the worship of Jehovah.*

34. He resolved, therefore, to abide the consequences of an undisguised conduct, whatever they might be.

35. *Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house, and his windows being open in his chamber towards Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees, three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God as he did aforetime.*

36. It was the custom of every religious Jew, to offer up particular worship to God, at the hour of the morning and evening sacrifice. The window was then open towards Jerusalem, and the face directed that way, in order to manifest communion with the saints, who were then worshipping in the temple.

37. When, therefore, Daniel retired at those hours, and opened his windows towards Jerusalem, he made no ostentatious display of his religion, but only complied with one of its sacred duties.

38. Methinks I see this venerable man, at the appointed hour of prayer, rising up from the seat on which he sat, in the midst of the presidents and princes, the counsellors and captains, who were sitting around him, and observing him with anxious looks.

39. Methinks I see him walking through the midst of them, with an air of dignity and serenity, which nothing but innocence and faith in God could inspire; while his enemies retire on each side, abashed by his awful presence.

40. He is gone.—They well know where and for what purpose. They follow him to

closet, and there behold him kneeling upon his knees, with his hands and eyes uplifted to God.

41. Behold the holy man in this devoured posture! What fervency was there in his supplications? How did the thought of his situation, the trial he had to pass through, his instantaneous appearance before God in judgment, and the greatness and awfulness of eternity, affect his mind?

42. With what ardour did he implore assistance and grace to support him! With what importunity did he intercede for the church of God, and for his friends, that they might continue faithful, in this season of trial, and for the king and the country, that the wicked acts of ungodly men might not draw down the vengeance of heaven.

43. But he gave thanks also. Was there not then, a season for thankfulness? Yes. Not only would the remembrance of the goodness and mercy of God, which had followed him for nearly ninety years, rush upon his mind, and inspire him with gratitude; but he would find the greatest reason to be thankful to God for the present occasion.

44. He was thankful, that he was so worthy to suffer as a martyr for the cause of God: thankful, that he had been so kept in the vine of grace, that no occasion could be found against him, save that he was a worshipper of the true God; thankful for the spirit, and the boldness, which then animated him, and the support which he was, at that moment, receiving from his God.

45. In the midst of the devout exercises

ent man, while his soul was conversing with the Father of spirits, behold his countenance shined upon him.

When these men assembled, and found Daniel, and making supplication before him as they came near, and spoke before the king, turning the king's decree. Hast thou not decreed, that every man that shall ask a word of any god or man, within thirty days, except he be a Jew, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?

The king answered and said, the thing is done according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not. Then answered they, and said unto the king, that Daniel, which is of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not the king's decree, nor the decree which thou hast signed, but prayeth his petition three times a day.

When the king, when he heard these words, was displeased with himself, and set his heart to deliver him; and he laboured till the setting of the sun to deliver him. Then those that kept the den, led unto the king, and said unto him, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is, that no decree nor statute, which the king hath made, may be changed.

Thus, into what snares are men betrayed by vanity and pride! By these was the king disposed to sacrifice one of his most faithful subjects.

And, there was the vanity, which occasioned the foolish law of the Medes and Persians, that whatever the king had ordered was not to be altered. Just as if every thing which he

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were so well and so wisely done, that there arise no occasion to change it.

Then there was the vanity of Darius, by which he allowed the particular law now spoken to be so impiously made, in order to gratify his pride. Thus did his present weakness, and inability to save an injured and excellent man from that very flattery, which seemed to raise his power to the highest pitch.

52. How short sighted is man! How liable to fall into the grossest errors, when he suffers himself to be influenced by his passions! Thus this high and mighty king, who had exalted himself above all men and gods, cannot even save the life of his faithful friend.

53. And now this great man, grown old in wisdom and virtue, as well as in years, is led through the streets of Babylon! What crowds attend to behold this illustrious victim of envy and malice! Methinks I hear, on one side, the insulting and cruel mockings of base men: "Where now is his God! they cry; where now his boasted wisdom?"

54. On the other hand, I see a vast number of aged men, fathers of the Jewish church, with silent sorrow beholding him, and lifting up their hearts to heaven in his behalf. There too, a crowd of those, who have been deeply indebted to his bounty, wait to bid farewell to their benefactor, and to offer him the last tribute of gratitude, in their affectionate and sympathetic looks.

55. There also the king waits to part with the man, who was now raised higher than ever in

esteem. What was their conversation, in this affecting interview, we are not told ; doubtless it was worthy of the piety and wisdom of Daniel.

56. What sound advice would he give his royal master ! What solemn lessons of instruction would he communicate, exhorting him to fear and serve the true God ! What noble confidence would he express in the power of Jehovah to deliver him, if it so pleased him ; and what resignation to his will, if he chose to accept of his death ! Even the heathen king was also inspired with confidence.

57. *Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee. And they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. And a stone was brought and laid upon the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords, that the purpose might not be changed respecting Daniel.*

58. Would you look for a scene, where human greatness is most conspicuous and human glory is advanced to the highest pitch, seek not for it amidst triumphant armies, or in splendid palaces. Behold *Daniel in the den of lions* ! See the savage beasts, which just now roared with impatience to devour their prey, crouch with reverence, and lie down at his feet !

59. Behold this wonderful man, with the wild beasts around him, kneeling down, and with tears of gratitude and wonder, again offering thanks to God ! What a scene ! How must he have felt, at this time ! I know not whether there was the

Most High, which was able to restrain the lions, and to shut their mouths!

61. With what earnestness would he devote himself to the service of God, and had so miraculously preserved him from death. With what fervency would he again offer thanksgiving and prayer for himself, and for the church of God! What a night was this, to be remembered by Daniel, and by all the servants of the Most High!

62. Let us turn now to see what was doing in the city. By the enemies of Daniel time was probably spent in feasting and merriment. They supposed, that they had now got rid of the man, who gave them so much uneasiness, and whose holy life, and his elevation above them, was a reproach to them.

63. They settled who should fill the seats in government. They congratulated each other on the success of their scheme. They planned measures of future prosperity, and comforted the friends and adherents of the fallen king, for their superstition and folly.

64. They blasphemed the God of heaven, and reproached his worship and cause, and comforted themselves, that there would be none who could dare, after this, openly to profess the religion of Daniel.

Others kept the night in fasting and prayer.
a season of sorrow to all the Jews, and to
o feared God, or respected innocence and
Above all, it was a night of sorrow to the

The king went to his palace, and passed
ht in fasting ; neither were instruments of
brought before him, and his sleep went
im.—Then the king arose very early in
rning, and went in haste unto the den of

And when he came to the den, he cried
lamentable voice unto Daniel ; and the
ake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant
living God, is thy God, whom thou serv-
tinually, able to deliver thee from the

Then said Daniel unto the king, O king,
rever. My God hath sent his angel, and
hut the lions' mouths, that they have not
e ; forasmuch as before him innocency was
n me ; and also before thee, O king, have I
o hurt:

Then was the king exceeding glad for
and commanded that they should take
up out of the den. So Daniel was taken
t of the den, and no manner of hurt
und on him, because he believed in his

And the king commanded, and they brought
nen which had accused Daniel, and they
em into the den of lions, them, their chil-
and their wives ; and the lions had the
y of them, and brake all their bones in

pieces, or ever they came at the bottom.

71. One observation only shall be this part of the story. That which meets our attention, is not the miracle wrought for Daniel, but the faithfulness manifested, in the hour of trial.

72. The miracle, indeed, shows the tones of the conduct of his servants, probation with which he beholds the mess; but if no miracle had been wrought, the lions had been suffered to devour him, his faithfulness would have equal lustre, and his God would have truly honoured by him : for we are the true characters of men, and of they bring to God, not by any events befall them; but by their disposition.

73. We have ordinarily, no right miracle to be wrought in our favour, all be placed in such circumstances, an opportunity to manifest the same attachment to God and religion, which he did.

74. Nay, there is no man living, frequently placed in such a situation, may shew plainly, whether he is influenced by regard for God, and whether he is willing to make any sacrifices for his sake, and for the religion.

75. While we admire the excellence of this story, may this story teach us to imitate both in that constancy of prayer, by

ed such excellence, and in that reverence
od, which will incline us, in like manner, to
with every thing for his sake, when we are
l to it.

And may we take notice, that though
el was advanced in life, when he was hon-
by being so wonderfully preserved in the
f lions, yet when he first began to fear and

God, he was young ; and was, therefore,
iable example of early piety, which young
e would do well to reflect upon, and to
e.

THE LYING BOY.

Mendax was a youth of good parts, and of
amiable accomplishments : but by keeping
ompany, he had contracted the odious prac-
f lying. His word was scarcely ever be-
l by his friends ; and he was often suspected
lts, and punished for them, only because he
d them.

The experience of every day might have
nced him of the disadvantages of being
ht a liar. He had a garden filled with the
est flowers, which he had cultivated with a
deal of care. It happened one day, that the
of a neighbouring pasture had broken
the fence ; and he found them trampling
and destroying a bed of fine marigolds.

He could not drive these ravagers away,
ut injuring other parts of his garden,

which were still more valuable : so he ran to procure the assistance of the gardener. " You intend to make a fool of me," said the man, who refused to go, as he gave no credit to the relation of Mendax. The consequence was, that his garden was almost wholly destroyed.

4. One frosty day, his father had the misfortune to be thrown from his horse, and to break one of his legs. Mendax was present, and was very much affected with the accident, but was not able to afford him the necessary help.

5. He was therefore obliged to leave him, in this painful condition, on the ground, which was then covered with snow ; and with all speed, he rode to the next village, to ask for the assistance of the first benevolent person he should meet with : but his character, as a liar, was so well known, that few to whom he applied paid any attention to his story ; and no one believed it.

6. After losing much time in fruitless entreaties, he returned with a sorrowful heart, and with his eyes bathed in tears, to the place where the accident happened. But his father had been removed by a coach, which fortunately passed that way, and which conveyed him to his own house, whither Mendax soon followed him.

7. A lusty boy, about whom Mendax had told some falsehoods, often way-laid him, as he went to school, and beat him with great severity. For some time, Mendax bore this chastisement in silence, knowing that he deserved it. At last, however, he complained to his father of the ill usage which he met with.

His father applied to the parents of the who abused him : But he could obtain no ass from them, and only received the following painful answer : “ Your son is a notorious liar, and we pay no regard to his assertions.” Mendax was therefore obliged to submit to the wonted correction, until the other judged that he had punished him sufficiently in lies.

Such were the evils, in which this unfortunate youth almost daily involved himself, by habit of lying. At length, he became sensible of his misconduct, and began to reflect on it with seriousness and sorrow. He soon resolved to amend : he set a guard upon his tongue ; spoke but little, and always with caution and reserve : and he soon found, by experience, that truth is infinitely better than falsehood.

By degrees, the love of truth prevailed on his mind to such a degree, that nothing would tempt him to violate it. This happy change rendered him to the esteem of his friends, to the confidence of the public, and to the peace of his own conscience.

THE FOOLISH MAN.

A countryman, who once wanted to pass a river, stood loitering on the banks of it, with the foolish expectation, that so rapid a current would discharge all its waters.

2. But the stream still flowed, and increased by fresh torrents from the mountains : and it *must* forever flow, because the sources from which it is derived are inexhaustible.

3. Thus does the idle and irresolute youth trifle over his books, or waste in play his precious moments ; putting off the task of improvement, which at first is easy, but which will become more and more difficult, the longer it is neglected.

4. How much wiser is he, who immediately sets about improving his time, and spends the golden season of youth in treasuring up knowledge, and in preparing to act his part upon the stage of life, with honour and advantage.

THE CRYING GIRL.

1. A little girl, who used to weep bitterly at the most trifling hurt, was one day attacked by a furious dog. Her cries reached the servants of the family ; but they paid little attention to what they were so much accustomed to hear.

2. In consequence of which, the poor girl might have been torn to pieces, had not a countryman happened to pass by, who was so kind as to rescue her from the devouring teeth of the dog.

INTEMPERANCE.

1. Cyrus, when he was a youth, being at the court of his grandfather Astyages, undertook one day to be the cup-bearer at table. It was the duty of this officer to taste the liquor before he presented it to the king.

2. Cyrus, without performing this ceremony, delivered the cup, in a very graceful manner, to his grandfather. The king reminded him of his omission, which he imputed to forgetfulness.

2. No, replied Cyrus, I was afraid to taste, because I apprehended there was poison in the liquor: For not long since, at an entertainment which you gave, I observed that the lords of your court, after drinking of it, became noisy, outrageous, and frantic. Even you, sir, seem to have forgotten that you was a king.

THE MOTH.

1. The moth, allured by the brightness of the candle, plays round the flame, till at last it is consumed with the heat. Is not this a fit emblem of those heedless ones, who play around the verge of evil, till at length they precipitate themselves into infamy and ruin!

2. The moth is an animal of so delicate a texture, that a slight touch crushes it to pieces. It is therefore, the last creature in the world, to sustain the attack of so terrible an enemy.

fire. Yet this enemy, in the resemblance of a friend, courts it to draw near, and afterward works its entire destruction.

3. Be not deceived, therefore, by fair appearances. Vice, folly, and danger often lurk under the most inviting forms.

Sweetest leaves the rose adorn,
Yet beneath them lurks the thorn :
Fair and flowery is the brake,
Yet it hides the speckled snake.

THE SPEECH OF A BUTTERFLY TO A PHILOSOPHER.

1. Thou hast seen me a creeping worm, in danger of being crushed by the foot of the traveller, unable to protect myself from injury. I claimed thy compassion, and thou turnedst thy foot and didst let me live : thou wouldest not wantonly kill a creature to which thy Creator had given life.

2. Thou hast seen me spin a web of the finest silk from the substance of my body, (without knowing my future destiny) and enclosing myself within it, apparently without life, as if my final doom were come.

3. Thou hast seen me emerge from the tomb, with all the sprightliness and vigour of youth, arrayed with wings of the finest texture, and adorned with colours superior to the robes of kings. Thou hast observed these wonderful changes of my condition, and now beholdest

bitant of earth or air, at my plea-

he who formed me, wise and pow-
er not gracious and beneficent? He
law within me, which has brought
happy state: I obeyed it even to
knowing it was the way to resurrec-

thou contemplate on my being, and
ructed? Canst thou think on my
believe that he hath been less kind
le hath written a law within thy
the guide of thy life, and canst
hat it is not preparatory to a future

thy sphere of action greater than
rm? Canst thou doubt, if thou art
thy Creator, that he will bring thee
felicity, of which thou canst now
e conception, than I had once of my
ymment.

the flower, embosom'd in perfume,
gay butterflies in beauty bloom;
s eye, the wondrous insect scan,
rdain'd a three-fold type of man.

from the dung-hill sprang the shining

l to view, a hideous, loathsome
l;
ith toil, his inch-long journies curs'd,
his mansion, and his food the dust;
plant, his moment o'er, he drew
tomb, and turn'd to earth anew.

9. Oft, from the leaf depending, hast thou
 seen
 Their tombs, with gold bedropp'd and cloth'd in
 green ;
 There slept the expectant, till the plastic beam
 Purg'd his vile dross, and bade his splendor
 flame.
 Then burst the bonds : at once in glory rise,
 His form ethereal, and his changing dyes ;
 Full on the lucid morn his wings unfold,
 Starr'd with strong light, and gay in living gold.

10. Through fields of air, at large, the wonder
 flies,
 Wafts on the beams, and mounts th' expanding
 skies ;
 O'er flowery beauties plumes of triumph waves,
 Imbibes their fragrance, and their charms out-
 braves ;
 The birds his kindred, heaven his mansion claims,
 And shines, and wantons, in the noon-day flames.

11. So man, poor worm ! the nurseling of a
 day !
 Springs from the dust, and dwells in humble
 clay ;
 Around his little mole-hill doom'd to creep,
 To drag life's load and end his toil with sleep.
 In silence, to the grave his form descends,
 And waits the trump that time and nature ends.

12. Then, wing'd with light, the deathless
 man shall rise,
 Sail thro' you stars, and soar from skies to skies ;

See heavens, o'er heavens, beneath him lessen
 ing roll,
 And feel the Godhead warm his changing soul ;
 From beauty's fount inhale th' immortal ray,
 And grow from light to light, in cloudless day ;
 Mid morn's fair legions, crown'd with grace be
 known,
 The peer of angels, and of God the son.

CRUELTY PUNISHED.

1. A pack of ravenous fox hounds were half starved in their kennel, to render them more voracious and eager in the chace : and were severely lashed, every day, by a merciless keeper, that they might be disciplined to the strictest observance of his looks and commands.

2. It happened one day, that this petty tyrant entered the kennel without his scourge. The dogs observed his defenceless state, and instantly flying upon him, at once satisfied their hunger and revenge, by tearing him to pieces.

3. Whilst you pity the unhappy fate of the keeper, you should lament, that in a civilized country, such cruelty should be exercised as to give occasion to it.

CRUELTY TO INSECTS.

1. A certain youth indulged himself in a cruel entertainment of torturing and killing. He tore off their wings and legs, and then watched, with pleasure, their impotent efforts to escape from him.

2. Sometimes he collected a number of them together, and crushed them at once to death, glorying, like many a celebrated hero, in the devastation which he committed, and in counting over the number of the slain.

3. Alexis remonstrated with him, in vain, at this barbarous conduct. He could not persuade him to believe that flies are capable of pain, that they have a right, as well as ourselves, to life, liberty, and enjoyment.

4. The signs of agony and distress, which he discovered, when tormented, by the quick and convulsive contortions of their bodies, he did not understand, nor would he pay any attention to them. He was so taken up with his favourite sport, that he had no time to think of any thing else.

5. Alexis had a microscope; and he devoted this lad one day to look through it, and examine a most beautiful and surprising animal which he had caught. Mark, says he, how it is studded from head to tail, with black and silver, and its body all over beset with the most curious bristles!

6. The head contains a pair of lively eyes encircled with silver hairs; and the trunk consists of two parts, which fold over each other.

he whole body is ornamented with plumes, and corations, which surpass all the luxuries of ess, in the courts of the greatest princes.

7. Pleased and astonished at what he saw, e youth was impatient to know the name and operties of this wonderful animal. The glass ough which he looked was then removed ; en this beautiful creature proved to be a or fly, which had been the victim of his wanton uelty.

8. After this he was never known to be guil- of depriving any creature of life, unless it is necessary ; and then he always did it in that anner, which would give the least pain ; and ver allowed himself to take pleasure in acts of uelty.

THE SLOTH AND THE BEAVER.

1. The Sloth is an animal of South America, d is so ill formed for motion, that a few paces e often a journey of a week ; and so averse to ove, that he never changes his place, but when is impelled by the severest hunger.

2. He lives upon the leaves, fruit and flowers trees, and often on the bark itself when nothing e remains for his subsistence. As a large antity of food is necessary for his support, he enerally strips a tree of all its verdure in less an a fortnight : and being then destitute of food, drops down, like a lifeless mass, from the ranches to the ground.

3. After remaining torpid some time, from the shock received by the fall, he prepares for a journey to some neighbouring tree, to which he crawls with so slow a motion, that it can hardly be perceived. At length arrived, he ascends the trunk, and devours with famished appetite, whatever the branches afford.

4. By consuming the bark, he soon destroys the life of the tree ; and thus the source is lost, from which his sustenance is derived. Such is the miserable state of this slothful animal.

5. How different are the comforts and enjoyments of the industrious Beaver ! This creature is found in the northern parts of America, and is about two feet long and one foot high. The shape of it somewhat resembles that of a rat.

6. In the months of June and July, the beavers assemble, and form a society, which generally consists of more than two hundred. They always fix their abode by the side of a lake or river ; and in order to make a dead water, they erect with incredible labour, a dam or pier, perhaps fourscore hundred feet long, and ten or twelve feet thick.

7. When this dike is completed, they build their several apartments, which are divided into three stories. The first is beneath the level of the ground, and is for the most part full of water. The walls of their habitations are perpendicular, and about two feet thick.

8. If any wood projects from their houses, they cut it off with their teeth, which are more serviceable than saws ; and by the help of their

they plaster all their works with a kind of
 ar, which they prepare of dry grass and
 mixed together.

In August or September, they begin to lay
 heir stores of food ; which consists of the
 of the birch, the plane, and of some other
 . Thus they pass the gloomy winter in
 and plenty.

. These two American animals, contrasted
 each other, afford a most striking picture
 e blessings of industry ; and of the want
 wretchedness, which attend upon sloth and
 ess.

. I went by the field of the slothful, says
 non, and by the vineyard of the man void of
 rstanding : and lo, it was all grown over
 thorns, and nettles had covered the face
 of, and the stone wall thereof was broken

. Then I saw and considered it well ; I
 ed upon it, and received instruction. A
 ful man hideth his hand in his bosom, and
 not so much as bring it to his mouth again.
 aith, there is a lion without ; I shall be slain
 e streets.

. He becometh poor that dealeth with a
 mind : but the hand of the diligent maketh
 —He that gathereth in summer, is a wise
 but he that sleepeth in harvest, is a son that
 ath shame. Seest thou a man diligent in his
 less ? he shall stand before kings.

INCREDULITY CONDEMNED

1. Sophron asserted that he could scratch of a pin at the distance of ten y
is *impossible*, said Alexis ; and immed
pealed to Euphronius, who was wall
them.

2. Though I do not believe, replied
nius, that Sophron's ears are more a
yours, yet I disapprove of your hasty
concerning the *impossibility* of what yo
understand. You are ignorant of the
sound, and of the various means by whi
be increased, or quickened in its progr
modesty should lead you, in such a cas
pend your judgment, till you have mad
inquiries on the subject.

3. An opportunity now presents itse
will afford Sophron the satisfaction h
Place your ear at one end of this long
timber, and I will scratch the other e
pin. Alexis did so, and distinctly l
sound ; which being conveyed through
of the wood, was increased in loudnes
speaking trumpet, or the horn of the h

4. A disposition to believe things to
or to disbelieve every thing, which w
immediately see the reason of, are equ
vourable to the acquisition of knowledge
both preclude inquiry and leave the mi
ed with ignorance or error.

AN EXPERIMENT.

1. It was a clear frosty day ; the sun shone bright, and the ground was covered with snow, when Euphronius invited Alexis, Lucy, Emilia, and Jacobus, to assist him in a little experiment, which he thought would contribute to their instruction and amusement.

2. He took four pieces of woollen cloth, equal in size, but of different colours ; one being *black*, another *blue*, a third *brown*, and a fourth *white*. Having chosen a proper situation, he laid them all, very near each other, on the surface of the snow.

3. In a few hours, the black piece of cloth had sunk down a good way below the surface ; the blue had settled almost as much ; the brown had sunk a little ; but the white remained exactly on the surface, where it was first laid.

4. Observe, said Euphronius, how different is the influence of the sun's rays on different colours ! All its rays are received and retained by the *black* ; and therefore, in the piece of cloth before us, they have produced such a strong and durable heat, as to melt the snow underneath.

5. Their effect on the *blue* is nearly similar ; but they seem not to penetrate the *white* at all : accordingly, the piece of that colour, by having no warmth communicated to it, still continues on the surface of the snow.

5. This little experiment teaches you, Emilia, that white hats will afford the best defence to your complexion ; but that they should have

ark linings, to absorb the rays of light, which are reflected from the earth; otherwise they will be thrown upon your face.

7. You may learn from it, Alexis, that cloths of a light colour are best adapted to summer and to hot climates; that black substances acquire heat sooner, and retain it longer than others, and should therefore always be chosen where warmth is desired.

8. There are other useful lessons, which may be learned from this experiment, which I shall leave to you the pleasure of discovering. Allow me only to remind you that knowledge and virtue may be justly compared to rays of light, and that your hearts should be like these pieces of cloth.

9. Like the black, they should receive every useful and good impression; and like the white they should reflect the good which they receive upon all around them: Then would ye be loved and admired by others, and be happy in yourselves.



THE CAMELEON.

1. The Cameleon is a small quadruped shape resembling a crocodile, and chiefly in Arabia and Egypt. It is a mistake to think the animal feeds upon air, as some have supposed; for his stomach is always found to contain other insects.

2. Mr. Le Bruyn, during his abode in

had four Cameleons in his possession. He perceived that they eat any thing, except and then a fly. Their colour often changed without any apparent cause ; but their most pale one was grey, or rather a pale mouse-colour.

Sometimes, these animals were a beautiful green, spotted with yellow ; at other times, were marked, all over with dark brown ; he never found that they assumed a red colour.

These properties of the Cameleon have given rise to the following fable, which was written by Mr. Merrick, and shows, in a lively striking manner, the folly of being too positive in our opinions.

Oft has it been my lot to mark
 Proud, conceited, talking spark,
 Whose eyes, that hardly serv'd, at most,
 Heard their master 'gainst a post :
 Around the world the blade had been,
 To see whatever could be seen ;
 Returning from his finish'd tour,
 Was ten times perter than before.

Whatever word you chance to drop,
 Travell'd fool your mouth will stop,
 , if my judgment you'll allow—
 To see—~~and~~ sure I ought to know.”—
 Begs you'd pay a due submission,
 And acquiesce in his decision.

Two travellers of such a cast,
 Over Arabia's wilds they pass'd,
 On their way in friendly chat,
 Talk'd of this, and then of that,

Discours'd awhile, 'mongst other matter,
Of the Cameleon's form and nature.

8. "A stranger animal," cries one,
"Sure never liv'd beneath the sun ;
"A lizard's body, lean and long,
"A fish's head, a serpent's tongue,
"Its tooth with triple claw disjoin'd ;
"And what a length of tail behind !
"How slow its pace ! and then, its hue—
"Whoever saw so fine a *blue* ?"

9. "Hold there," the other quick replies,
"'Tis *green*—I saw it with these eyes,
"As late with open mouth it lay,
"And warm'd it in the sunny ray ;
"Stretch'd at its ease, the beast I view'd,
"And saw it eat the air for food."

10. "I've seen it, Sir, as well as you,
"And must again affirm it *blue*.
"At leisure, I the beast survey'd,
"Extended in the cooling shade."

11. "'Tis *green*, 'tis *green*, Sir, I assure ye."—
"Green !" cries the other in a fury—
"Why, Sir—d'ye think I've lost my eyes ?"
"'Twere no great loss," the friend replies,
"For if they always serve you thus,
"You'll find them of but little use."

12. So high at last the contest rose,
From words, they almost came to blows ;
When luckily came by a third—
To him the question they referr'd ;
And begg'd he'd tell 'em if he knew,
Whether the thing was *green* or *blue*.

13. "Sirs," cries the umpire, "cease your
pother—

ure's neither one nor t'other.
 ie animal last night,
 d it o'er by candle light ;
 t well—'twas *black* as jet—
 —but, sirs, I've got it yet,
 roduce it."—" Pray, sir, do :
 life the thing is *blue*."
 : sworn, that when you've seen
 e, you'll pronounce him *green*."
 ll then, at once to ease the doubt,"
 man, " I'll turn him out :
 before your eyes I've set him,
 't find him *black* I'll eat him."
 n full before their sight
 : beast ; and lo ! 'twas *white*.

VE ; OR A LESSON TO CURE VANITY.

. white frock had hitherto been the
 f Caroline. Silver buckles in her
 shoes ; and her ebon hair, which
 elt the torturing iron, flowed upon
 s, in graceful ringlets, and in all the
 plicity of nature.
 one day in company with some little
 hough no older than herself, were
 the empty parade of fashion ; the
 ter of those fine clothes raised in
 lesire she had never before felt.
 as she got home, " My dear mam-
) I have this afternoon seen Miss

Flippant and her two sisters, whom you well know.—The eldest is not older than I and yet they are all dressed in the most manner.

4. "Their parents must certainly take care in seeing them so finely dressed; they are not richer than you are, do, my mamma, let me have a fine silk slip, embroidered shoes like theirs, and let my hair be done by Mr. Frizzle, who is said to be a very man in his profession."

5. Her mother replied that she should have no objections to gratify her wishes, provided it would add to her happiness; but she was fearful it might have a contrary effect. As Caroline could not give in to this mode of living, she requested her mamma to explain the reasons for what she had said.

6. "Because (said her mother) you are in continual fear of spotting your silk slip, and of soiling your fine shoes, whenever you wear them."

7. "A dress like that of Miss Flippant requires the utmost care and attention to prevent it from accidents; for a single spot will ruin its beauty, and you very well know the difficulty of washing of silks. And however extensive your fortune may be, it is not sufficient to purchase you silk gowns so often as you would wear them."

8. Miss Caroline considered these arguments as very trifling, and promised to give her mamma no uneasiness by her carelessness in wearing her fine clothes.

Though her mamma consented to let her dress in the manner she requested, yet she ordered her to remember the hints she had given of the vexations to which her vanity would expose her.

. Miss Caroline, on whom this good advice had no effect, lost not a moment in destroying all pleasure and enjoyment of her infancy.

. Her hair, which before hung down in care-linglets, was now twisted up in paper, and squeezed between a pair of burning tongs ; and the fine jet, which had hitherto so happily set off the whiteness of her forehead, was lost under a cloud of powder and pomatum.

. In a few days the mantua-maker arrived with a fine slip of pea-green taffety, with fine pink linings, and a pair of shoes elegantly worked to answer the slip.

. The sight of them gave great pleasure to the line : but it was easy to be perceived that when she had them on, her limbs were under great restraint, and her motions had lost their accustomed ease and freedom.

. That innocence and candour, which used to adorn her lovely countenance, began to be lost at the profusion of flowers, silks, gauzes and ribbons.

. The novelty of her appearance, however, enchanted her. Her eyes, with uncommon eagerness, wandered over every part of her dress, and were seldom removed, unless to take a general survey of the whole, in a pier-

. She prevailed on her mamma to let her

send for all her little acquaintances to in order that she might enjoy the inexpressible pleasure of being gazed at.

17. As soon as they were met, she would walk backwards and forwards before the peacock, and seem to consider herself empress of the world, and they as her vassals.

18. The little ladies, perceiving the vanity of Caroline, were resolved to punish her. This they did very effectually, in the following manner. They proposed, as was customary when they met together, to take a ramble in the park.

19. Miss Caroline agreed to accompany them, and led the way. What first attracted her attention was a beautiful meadow, enameled with a variety of charming flowers ; and bordered by trees whose wings were of various colours, waving over the surface.

20. The little ladies amused themselves by hunting these butterflies, which they could easily catch, without hurting them ; and as they had examined their beauties, let them go again. Of the flowers that sprang beneath their feet, they made nosegays formed in the most elegant manner.

21. Miss Caroline longed to share in this amusement, as she used to do, with her little friends ; but they told her that the dampness of the grass would infallibly stain her fine shoes, and so she slipped on.

22. Miss Caroline was of course under the necessity, of being solitary and inactive, while her companions sported on the grass, without incommoding themselves.



3. The pleasure she had lately taken, in wearing her fine slip and shoes, was, at this moment, but a poor compensation for the happiness which she thereby lost.

4. On one side of the meadow grew a fine grove of trees, which resounded with the various songs of innumerable birds, which seemed to invite every one that passed by, to come and partake of the indulgences of the shade. The little maidens entered this grove, jumping and skipping, without fearing any injury to their dresses.

5. Miss Caroline would have followed them, but they advised her not to do it, telling her that the bushes would certainly tear her fine trimmings. She plainly saw that her friends, who were joyously sporting among the trees, were making themselves merry at her expense, and therefore grew peevish and ill-humoured.

6. The youngest of her visitors, however, showed some sort of compassion on her. She had discovered a corner where a quantity of wild strawberries grew, when she called to Miss Caroline, and invited her to eat part of them.

7. This she readily attempted : but no sooner had she entered the grove, than she was obliged to call out for help. Hereupon the children all rushed to the spot, and found poor Caroline fastened by the gauze of her hat to a branch of the thorn, from which she could not disengage herself.

8. They immediately took out the pins that fastened her hat ; but to add to her misfortunes,

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her hair, which had been frizzled with sulphur labour, was also entangled with the branches of the white thorn, it cost her almost whole lock, before she could be set at liberty.

29. Thus, in an instant, was all the boasted superstructure of her head-dress put into confusion.

30. After what had passed, it cannot be difficult to suppose, in what manner her play-mates viewed this accident. Instead of consolation, which Caroline stood in much need, they could not refrain from laughing at the odd figure which she made, and did actually torment her with an hundred witty jokes.

31. After having put her a little into order they quitted her, in search of new amusement and were soon seen at the top of a neighbouring hill. Miss Caroline found it very difficult to reach this hill; for her fine shoes that were very tight, in order to set off her feet the better, greatly retarded her speed.

32. Nor was this the only inconvenience her stays were drawn so close, that she could not properly breathe. She would very willingly have gone home to change her dress, in order to be more at ease; but she well knew that her play-mates would not give up their amusements to please her caprice.

33. Her play-mates having reached the summit of the hill, enjoyed the beautiful prospect which surrounded them on all sides. On one side they saw verdant meadows; on the other, the golden harvest, with meandering streams.

sected the fields, and country seats and cottages scattered here and there.

34. So grand a prospect could not fail of delighting them, and they danced about for joy : the poor Caroline found herself obliged to reel in below, overwhelmed with sorrow, at not being able to get up the hill.

35. In such a situation, she had leisure enough to make the most serious reflections. To what purpose (said she to herself) am I dressed in these fine clothes ? Of what a deal of pleasure do they debar me, and do not all my present sorrows arise merely from the possession of them ?”

36. She was giving up her mind to these disconsoling thoughts, when she suddenly saw her friends come running down the hill, and all crying out together, as they passed her, “ Run, Caroline ! there is a terrible storm behind the hill, and it is coming towards us ! if you do not make haste, your fine silk slip will be nicely spoiled !”

37. The fear of having her slip spoiled, reëxercised her strength ; for she forgot her weariness, pinched feet, and tight laced waist, and made all the haste she could to get under cover.

38. In spite of all her efforts, however, she could not run so fast as her companions, who were not incommoded by their dresses.

39. Every moment produced some obstacle to her speed : at one time, by her hoop and flounces, the narrow paths she had to pass through : at another by her train, of which the furzes fre-

quently took hold : and at others, by scaffold work about her head, on which beat down the branches of such trees as obliged to pass under, in her progress.

40. At last, down came the storm with fury, and hail and rain mixed together in torrents. All her companions were safe before it began, and none were exposed but poor Caroline, who indeed got hurt but in a most disastrous condition.

41. She had left one of her fine shoes in a large mudhole, which, in her flight, she had hurried over without observing. And to fill up the measure of her misfortune, just as she had got over the meadow, a gust of wind made free with her bonnet, and blew it into a pond of stagnated water.

42. So completely soaked was every thing she had on, and the heat and rain had so softened her linen to her, that it was with some difficulty she got her undressed : as to her silk slip, that afforded a miserable spectacle of fallen vanity.

43. Her mother seeing her in tears, said to her, " My dear, shall I have another gown made for you against to-morrow ?"—" Yes, mamma," answered Caroline, kissing her, perfectly convinced from experience, that new clothes cannot add to the happiness of the poor. Let me again have my nice white frock and shoes, and I will no more be so foolish and vain.

Caroline soon appeared in her former, and with it she recovered her usual ease and freedom, and looked more modest and less than she ever did in her gaudy finery. Her mamma did not regret the loss which she had sustained, since it was the means of bringing her daughter back to reason and prudence.



THE PEASANT AND THE ROGUES.

A Chaldean peasant was conducting a goat to the city of Bagdat. He was mounted on an ass, and the goat followed him with a bell suspended from his neck. "I shall sell these animals," said he to himself, "for thirty pieces of silver; and with the money I can purchase a new turban, and a new vestment of taffety, which I will tie with a ribbon of purple silk. I shall then be the finest man at the mosque."

While the peasant was thus pleasing himself with his future enjoyments, three artful rogues contrived a stratagem to plunder him of his present treasures. They agreed together that each of them should act, and then set themselves to accomplish their fraudulent design.

As the peasant moved slowly along, one of the rogues slipped off the bell from the neck of the goat, and fastening it without being perceived, to the tail of the ass, carried away his booty. The man riding upon the ass, and hearing the

sound of the bell, continued to muse, without least suspicion of the loss which he had sustained.

4. Happening, however, a short time afterwards, to turn about his head, he discovered grief and astonishment, that the animal was which constituted so considerable a part of riches ; and he enquired, with the utmost anxiety, after his goat, of every traveller whom he met.

5. The second rogue now came up to him and said, " I have just seen, in yonder field a man in great haste, dragging along with him his goat." The peasant immediately dismounted and requested the obliging stranger to hold his ass, that he might lose no time in overtaking the thief.

6. He instantly began the pursuit ; and he traversed in vain, the course that was pointed out to him, he came back fatigued and breathless, to the place from whence he set out, where he neither found his ass nor the dishonest informer to whose care he had intrusted him.

7. As he walked pensively onwards, overwhelmed with shame, vexation, and disappointment, he was roused by the loud complaints and lamentations of a poor man, who sat by the side of a well. He turned out of the way to sympathise with a brother in distress ; recalled his own misfortunes ; and enquired the cause of that violent sorrow, which seemed to oppress him.

8. Alas ! said the poor man, in the most

e of voice, as I was resting here to dropped into the water a casket full of , which I was employed to carry to sh at Bagdat ; and I shall be put to death, uspicion of having secreted so valuable e.

ry do you not jump into the well, in the casket ? cried the peasant, aston- the stupidity of his new acquaintance. it is deep, replied the man, and I can live nor swim : But will you undertake l office for me, and I will reward you ty pieces of silver.

he peasant accepted the offer with ex- and, whilst he was putting off his cas- st, and slippers, poured out his heart in ing for this providential succour. I v repair my loss, said he, and shall do a dness, besides, to this poor man.

ut the moment he plunged into the wa- arch of the pretended casket, the man s one of the three rogues that had con- ie plan of robbing him) seized upon his , and bore them off in security to his s.

hus through inattention, simplicity, and , was the unfortunate Chaldean duped little possessions ; and he hastened back ttage, with no other covering for his na- but a tattered garment, which he bor- n the road.

his story may teach us not to trust too the honesty of others, especially of ; who may appear, indeed to be desti-

tute of any ill design, and may even offer to oblige and assist us ; and all this they may do, the more effectually and securely to deceive and defraud us.

THE VALUE OF FRIENDS.

1. One of the emperors of China, on his accession to the throne, commanded a general release from the prisons of all that were confined for debt. Amongst the number, there was an old man, who had been an early victim to adversity, and whose period of imprisonment, as appeared by the notches, which he had cut in the door of his gloomy cell, had been no less than fifty years.

2. With faltering steps he departed from his mansion of sorrow : His eyes are dazzled with the splendor of light ; and the face of nature presented to his view a perfect paradise. The jail, in which he had been imprisoned, was at some distance from Peking ; and he directed his course to that city, impatient to enjoy the gratulations of his wife, his children, and his friends.

3. With difficulty, he found his way to the street, in which formerly stood his decent habitation ; and his heart became more elevated, at every step which he advanced. He proceeded, and looked with earnestness around ; but saw few of those objects, with which he was formerly acquainted.

4. A magnificent edifice was erected on the spot, where his house had been : The dwellers

neighbours had assumed, new forms ; and did not a single face, of which he had the collection. An aged beggar, who stood, trembling knees, at the gate of a portico, which he had been thrust by an insolent ser-
 vant upon his attention.

He stopped to give him a pittance out of his bounty, with which he had been supplied by the emperor's liberality ; and in return, he recom-
 mended the object of his charity, the sad fate of his wife had fallen a lingering sacrifice to grief and sorrow ; that his children were gone with their fortunes in unknown climes ; and that his grave contained his nearest and most friends.

Overwhelmed with disappointment and anxiety, he hastened to the palace of his sovereign, to present his hoary locks and mourn-
 ful aspect to the emperor. Casting himself at the feet of the emperor, he thus addressed

"Great prince, remand me to the prison which mistaken mercy hath delivered me ! I have survived my family and friends ! and in the midst of this populous city, I find myself in solitude. I was never so unhappy, as at the present moment.

The cell of my dungeon protected me from gazers at my wretchedness ; and whilst I was shut from society, I was less sensible of the social enjoyments. I am now tortured with the view of pleasures, in which I cannot partake, and see the cup of happiness, of which I can never taste."

9. If the horrors of a dungeon be **pre** to the world at large, by the man who **is** of his kindred and friends, how highly **shoul** prize, how tenderly should you love, and studious should you be to please those near dear relations, whom a kind Providence has preserved to you !

10. Listen to the affectionate counsels of parents ; treasure up their precepts : res their riper judgment ; and enjoy, with grati and delight, the advantages resulting from t society.

11. Cherish a proper regard for your brot and sisters ; consider them as your best com ions, through the variegated journey of life ; suffer no jealousies or feuds to interrupt the mony, which should forever reign among t of the same family.

12. Study to merit the approbation of the and good, endeavour to qualify yourself by acquisition of knowledge, and the exerts benevolence, for the intercourse of mank and you will at once be an ornament to soc and derive the highest satisfaction to yourse

THE CRITIC.

1. Aurelia, though in other respects she wv efficiently good tempered, yet had contracted great fault, and that was calumny. She publi every where what she conceived amiss in ot though they were her dearest friends.

. If at any time she heard of the least failing imprudence in any one, or even if she was that any thing of an unfavourable kind was expected, she would immediately run into company and broach it, as if it were an undoubted fact, without any regard to the reputation or feelings of others.

. And from an eagerness of reporting things of this kind, and of making them appear credible, she would sometimes add circumstances drawn from her own imagination, and would give a false colouring to those which were founded in truth.

. You may easily conceive what evils were produced by such a conduct. It was not long ere one family was set against another, in the neighbourhood, and mutual confidence, love, and peace were suddenly banished from those, whose company the little girl frequented.

. People went so far, at last, as to shut their doors against her, as they would have done against a wretched creature tainted with the plague: but neither hatred nor humiliation could correct a vice, which custom had so deeply rivetted in her nature.

. The credit of her reformation was reserved for Amanda, her cousin, who was now the only person that would receive her visits, and pardon them; as she always lived in hopes of being able, in the end, to show her the enormity of her behaviour, and preserve her from utter ruin.

. Miss Aurelia went one day to see her cousin, and employed an hour or two in telling scandalous stories about all her acquaintance, ab-

though she knew with what uneasiness her
 sin heard them. It was all the same to her.

8. And now, my dear Amanda, said she
 ing stopped for want of breath, your turn
 come to tell me something. You see cool
 enough to have a stock of little anecdotes
 at your hands.

9. My dear Aurelia, said Amanda, when
 I am visiting my friends, I wish to taste the
 sure of their company ; and I am not su-
 ideot as to lose it by remarking their defect

10. Besides, I find within myself so
 that I cannot possibly have time to think
 those in others. And having the greatest
 of their indulgence, I am wise enough to
 them mine.

11. I rather choose to fix my attention
 those commendable qualities which I
 them, and so endeavour to acquire them
 must be persuaded of a faultless character
 self, before one can proceed to note the
 of others.

12. I congratulate you upon this
 character, which I, on the other hand,
 unhappy as to want. Continue, my dear
 this employment of a charitable cause
 you may lead mankind to virtue, by
 the deformity of vice. You cannot fail
 in the esteem of others, by such
 conduct.

13. Aurelia could not fail of being
 that she was, long ere this, become a
 ject of aversion and disgust ; and she
 verely felt the satire of her cousin.

She began, from that day forward, to re-
with real seriousness upon the consequen-
her indiscretion. She even trembled at
recollection of those mischiefs she had caus-
and was now determined to prevent their
ess.

It was difficult, in the beginning, to leave
custom, which she had so long indulged in,
holding things on the unfavourable side ;
that can long withstand a steady resolu-

She was, in the end, so totally reformed,
became as natural for her to look for the
s of others, as it had before been to search
her faults. She was now the first to attempt
doubtful actions in such a point of view,
that they might appear excusable.

When she could not do this, she would
don't know every circumstance attending
: no doubt but there were commendable
as, such as I am not acquainted with.

In short, whenever, as it sometimes
es, the nature of the case would not admit
excuse or indulgence, she would pity the
er, and endeavour to say as little as possi-
out the offence.

However, it was very long indeed before
ould regain those hearts, her former con-
had alienated. People had avoided her
so much care for years, that she seemed
ten, just as if she had withdrawn herself
the world.

No wonder then she should suppose her-
condemned to pass her days in solitude, de-

prived of all those pleasures that accompany happy marriage, and the enjoyment of a choice number of friends.

21. She however, at length, recovered her character, was married to a gentleman of good sense and fortune, and was esteemed and respected by all worthy people.

22. She has given me leave to write her story in this book, for the instruction of my young friends, if there be any like her who may read it. For my part, I pretend not to say that I know any such: but if there should be, I persuade myself, that after reading this story, they will set about a reformation.

THE SPARROW'S NEST.

1. Billy Wilkin, having one day espied a sparrow's nest, under the eaves of the house, intended to inform his sisters of the important discovery, and they immediately fell into consultation about the manner in which they should take it.

2. It was at last agreed that they should wait till the young ones were feathered, that Billy should then place a ladder up against the wall, and that his sisters should hold it fast below while he mounted after the prize.

3. As soon as they thought these poor little creatures were properly grown, preparations were made for the execution of their intended plan. The old birds flew backwards and

about the nest, and expressed, as well as were able, the sorrow and affliction they were being robbed of their young.

Billy and his two sisters, however, paid no heed to their piteous moans ; for they took the cage with three young ones in it. As they had taken the innocent prisoners in their possession, the next thing to be considered was what they could do with them.

The youngest sister, being of a mild and unheated disposition, proposed putting them into a cage, promising to look after them ; and to see that they wanted for nothing. Billy minded her brother and sister how pretty they would be, to see and hear those birds when they came up.

Billy, however, was of a very different mind ; for he insisted on it, that it would be better to pluck off their feathers, and then set them down in the middle of the room, as it would be very funny to see how they would hop about without feathers.—The eldest sister was of the contrary way of thinking as the younger ; but Billy determined to have the matter entirely his own way.

The two little ladies, finding they were not likely to have things as they wished, gave up the point, without much hesitation ; for Billy had already begun to strip the poor helpless

As fast as he plucked them, he put them down on the floor, and it was not long before the little birds were stripped of all their feathers.

The poor things cried, *Weet ! Weet !* and

complained in the most piteous accents, shook their little wings, and shuddered cold.

9. Billy, however, who had not the sense of feeling for their sufferings, carried his persecutions still further, pushing them with violence to make them go on, when they stopped, laughing most heartily whenever they stumbled down, through weakness.

10. Though his two sisters, at the first, had pleaded against this cruel kind of amusement, yet seeing their brother so merry on this occasion, they forgot their former humane feelings, and joined in the cruel sport with him. So the influence of bad example.

11. In the midst of this cruel kind of amusement, at a distance they saw their father approaching. This put them into some alarm, and each pocketed a bird. They were avoided their father, but he called to them, and asked their reason for wishing to stop. They approached him very slowly, and their eyes cast downwards, which convinced him something amiss was going forwards.

12. On their answering that they were playing, their father observed to them, that he very well knew he never denied them amusement, but on the contrary was always glad to see them cheerful and happy.

13. He took notice, that they all had birds in their pockets, upon which he insisted on pulling them out, and letting him see what was they endeavoured to conceal. They were obliged to comply, much against their

each produced a poor bird that had been
ed of its feathers.

Mr. Wilkin was filled with pity and in-
ion, and gave each of them a look that
ore dreadful than any words he could have
n. After a short silence, Billy attempted
tify himself by saying, that it was a droll
o see sparrows hopping about without any
rs, and he could see no harm in it.

"Can you, then, (said Mr. Wilkin to
) take pleasure in seeing innocent crea-
suffer, and hear their cries without pity?"
said he did not see how they could suffer
aving a few feathers pulled off.

His papa, to convince him of his error,
a few hairs from his head, when he roar-
loudly with the pain. "What would your
e, then, (said his papa) were I thus to
all the hair out of your head?"

"You are sensible of the pain you now
out you were insensible of the torment to
you put these innocent creatures, that
offended you. But that you, Misses,
join in such an act of cruelty, very
surprises me!" The young ladies stood
less, and then, without being able to say
l, sat down with their eyes swimming with
which their papa observing, said no more
n.

But Billy still persisted in his opinion,
e did the birds no harm; on the contrary,
l they showed their pleasure, by clapping
rings and chirping. "They clapped their
(said Mr. Wilkin) from the pain you put

them to ; and what you call chirping, were cries and lamentations.

19. " Could those birds have expressed themselves in your speech, you would have heard them say, " Ah father and mother, save us, for we have fallen into the hands of cruel children, who have robbed us of our feathers ! We are cold and in pain. Come warm us, and cure us, or we shall soon die !"

20. The little ladies could no longer refrain from crying out, and accusing Billy of leading them into this act of cruelty. Billy himself now seemed to be sensible of his fault, and felt not only the smart of having a few hairs pulled out of his head, but the reproaches of his conscience.

21. It appeared to the father, that there was now no need of adding to the punishment of his children ; but only to caution them, never, in future, to torment any creature unnecessarily, but to pity their distresses, and do all they could to relieve them. And I never heard that Billy, or his sisters, were guilty, after this, of any cruel conduct towards the little birds, or any dumb creature ; but were very good children.

THE INORDINATE DESIRE OF WEALTH CURED BY A DREAM.

1. I live upon a stony piece of ground, consisting of about one hundred acres, in the township of Abington, about ten miles from Philadelphia.

by great industry in cultivating this farm, and constantly attending the Philadelphia market, I contrived to bring up a large family of children at that age, in which it was necessary to settle them in life.

2. At this time their demands upon me increased, but my resources were stationary. In this situation my mind vented itself in perpetual wishes for wealth, equal to the exigencies of my family.

3. One night, after passing the evening in listening to stories of the immense riches of — P —, G — C —, and others of the wealthy citizens of Philadelphia, I had the following dream, which I have been persuaded to communicate to the public.

4. I thought that all the stones on my farm were suddenly converted into gold. The joy I, upon this occasion, cannot be described. I walked across my fields with exultation, dazzled at the splendour of the riches which met my view wherever I looked.

I now began to devise the ways, in which I could employ my suddenly acquired treasures. I built myself, in imagination, a large house, I had a carriage, I portioned off my children liberally to their wishes, I entertained the citizens of Philadelphia, and attended the theatre and other places of public amusement.

After satisfying myself with these reflections, I began to think of collecting my wealth in a mass, and putting it into some place of security. It was now near sun down, and I b

gan to entertain fears from the inroads of my neighbours upon my fields, during the night.

7. I saw, at once, the difficulty of collecting my treasure, in one evening, or even in two or three days. I thought of employing a great many hands for the purpose. But who, said I, will watch them, to prevent their robbing me?

8. I thought of hiring guards. But who, said I, will ensure the fidelity and integrity of these guards? I thought of employing persons, who should first cut off their pockets from their clothes.

9. But said I, they may still rob me, by concealing in their mouths, or swallowing small lumps of my gold. For I felt as great a dread of losing as much of this gold, as a man could conceal in his mouth, as if it had been all I had in the world.

10. My anxiety now became very great; but it was only the beginning of my trouble. I extended my views beyond the moment I have described. I began to think of the kind of building, in which I could secure my wealth. I found upon calculation, that it could not be contained in a house of less size than the large German Lutheran Church, in Philadelphia, and that such a house could not be completed in less than two years.

11. In the mean while, I fancied I saw my gold exposed to plunder, not only by my neighbours, but by thousands of other people, who could not fail of hearing of the opportunity which my fields afforded of acquiring an independence, by a night's excursion to them.

In this situation, my soul was torn with terrible anguish. I sighed and groaned to a degree, that I awoke my wife, who lay beside. She was much agitated, and supping; I was very ill, awaked me.

Never did any man enjoy an escape from sin or fire, more than I did my deliverance from the distraction into which my dream had led me. I wept several minutes, before I was able to tell my wife the cause of my distress.

I arose immediately after day break, and walked in my stony fields with more pleasure than I had done before, in any period of my life. I traced a smooth stone, on which I had often rested, and pressing it to my bosom, thanked God that it was not gold. Ever since I had this dream, I have enjoyed no man his riches, and have been perfectly contented and thank-

One thing I must not neglect to mention, that is, that in my wishes for great wealth, when I had this dream, I always said I would give a part of it in building churches, establishing free schools, and relieving the distressed poor : but in my dream, I never once thought of churches, schools, nor of a single man, woman, or child, upon the face of the

A FARMER.

A REMARKABLE DELIVERANCE FROM SHIPWRECK.

[The following story was related by Henry Laurens, Esq. President of Congress, when in London, in 1782. From his own knowledge of the circumstance, he was enabled to attest its truth.]

1. In the year 1740, a Captain Shurbrick, who commanded a vessel, which had made several voyages to Charleston, in South Carolina, was lying off the bar, almost ready for sailing, when suddenly a tremendous hurricane arose, which continued the whole night.

2. When the morning came, it appeared that much damage had been done, and that Captain Shurbrick's vessel was missing. His friends at Charleston, were alarmed and anxious for his safety. It was the opinion of some that he had gone down as soon as the hurricane commenced; while others thought, that as he was nearly laden, he had pushed away for England.

3. This was the subject of conversation that day. The next night, the lady of a merchant in Charleston, at whose house Captain Shurbrick was very intimate, dreamed that the vessel was lost, but that the Captain was floating on part of the wreck.

4. This she related to her husband, and prevailed upon him to send out a schooner some few leagues, in hopes to assist Captain Shurbrick.

e gentleman did so : the schooner sailed, and turned in the evening, without gaining any information.

5. She dreamed the same that night, and related her request to her husband, that the schooner might be again sent out ; he was averse to it ; but on her importunity complied. The schooner returned, as on the preceding day.

6. She again dreamed that Shurbrick's vessel was lost, and that he was floating on part of the wreck ; and again renewed her request. The gentleman objected, that it was well known in Charleston, that he had sent the schooner out once in consequence of her dreams, which had subjected him to the ridicule of some people, and that were he to do it again, he should be generally laughed at.

7. However, he could not resist his lady's solicitations, and the schooner sailed once more. In the evening, as she was making the harbor, an object was discovered at a distance, which, on their approaching it, proved to be Capt. Shurbrick, with one sailor, on a part of the wreck. They took them up, and returned safe to Charleston.



THE HAPPY WATERMAN.

1. A gentleman and lady, walking on the banks of the river Thames, spied a small ferry boat, with a neatly dressed waterman rowing towards

them.—On his nearer approach, the stern of his boat these words, *The man.*


2. On entering into conversation enquiring into his situation in life, he had a wife and five children, and also an old father and mother-in-law labour.

3. The gentleman and lady were quite surprised at the title he had, and said, “ Friend, if this be your name, is it that you call yourself the happy ? ” “ I can easily explain this to you,” answered the young man, “ if you leave.”

4. They desired him to proceed, as follows : “ I have observed that blessings in life are often looked greatest distresses, and are in fact a means of imprudent conduct.

5. My father and mother died and left a large family. My father man, and I was his assistant, in the of a ferry boat, by which he supported. On his death, it was necessary (in his debts) to sell our boat. I parted even with tears ; but the distress threatened me on to industry ; for I said, I of every kind of diligence to purchase back again.

6. I went to the person who I and told him my design. He had guineas for it, but told me, as I was owner, that I should have it when



raise five pounds. "Shall the boat be mine again?" said I : my heart bounded at the thought!

7. I was at this time married to a good young woman, and we lived in a neighbouring cottage. She was young, healthy and industrious, and so was I ; and we tenderly loved one another.— What might we not undertake ? My father used to say to me, " Always do what is right ; serve and fear God ; labour diligently, and spend your money carefully : and Heaven will bless your store."

8. We treasured up these rules, and determined to try the truth of them. My wife had long chiefly supported two aged parents, whom I loved as my own, and the desire of contributing to their support was an additional spur to my endeavours to re-purchase the boat.

9. I entered myself as a day labourer, in the garden of a neighbouring gentleman ; and my wife was called occasionally to perform some services at the house, and employed herself in needle-work, spinning or knitting at home. Not a moment in the day was suffered to pass unemployed.

10. We supported ourselves, furnished all the comforts we could to the poor about us, and every week we dropped a little overplus into a fairing box, to buy the Boat. If any accident or charity brought us an additional shilling, we did not enlarge our expense, but kept it for the Boat.

11. The more care we took, the more comfortably we felt, for we were nearer the posses-

sion of our little BOAT. Our labour was lightened by our looking forward to the attainment of our wishes.

12. Our family indeed increased, but with it our friends increased also, for the cleanliness and frugality which furnished our cottage, and the content and cheerfulness that appeared in it, drew the notice of our rich neighbours, and particularly of my master and mistress, whose rule was to assist the industrious, but not to encourage the idle.

13. They did not approve of giving money to the poor ; but in cold winters, or dear times, allowed us to buy things at a cheaper rate.—This was money to us ; for when we counted our little cash for the week's marketing, all that we saved by purchasing things at reduced prices, went into our little box.

14. If my children got a penny at school, for a reward, to buy gingerbread, they brought it home, they said, to help buy the BOAT—for they would have no gingerbread till daddy had got his boat again. Thus from time to time, our little store insensibly increased, till one pound only was wanting of the five, when the following accident happened.

15. Coming home, one evening, from my work, I saw in the way a small pocket-book : On opening it, I found a bank note of ten pounds, which plainly enough belonged to my master, for his name was upon it, and I had also seen him pass that way in the evening.

16. It being too late, however, to return to the house, I went on my way. When I told my

ly of the accident, the little ones were
wn into a transport of joy. My dears, said
hat is the matter? "Oh! daddy, the Boat!
Boat! we may now have two or three
!!"

. I checked them by my looks, and asked
if they knew whose money it was? They
"yours, as you found it." I reminded
that I was not the real owner, and bid them
how they would all feel, supposing a stran-
were to take our box of money, if I should
en to drop it, on the day I went to buy back
boat?

. This thought had the effect that I desired,
eir young minds: and I begged it might be
son to them never to forget the golden rule
doing as they would wish others to do to
:" for by attending to this excellent rule,
ne would ever do wrong to another.

. I also took this opportunity to explain to
, that the possession of the boat by dishonest
is, would never answer, since we could not
ct the blessing of God upon bad deeds. But
on with my story:

. The next morning, I put the pocket-book
my bosom, and went to my work, intending
on as the family rose, to give it to my mas-
-But what were my feelings, when, on
thing my bosom, it was no where to be found?
tened back, along the road I came, looking
ntly all the way, but in vain; there were no
s of any such thing.

I would not go into my cottage, because I
R

wished to save my family the pain of still recovering the book my work following another path, neglected I had also gone by.

22. On my return to the garden accosted by the gardener, who, in a stern tone, told me I was suspected; that I had lost a pocket-book, and I being absent from the garden, at the hour the rest of the men also denying that such thing, there was every reason that I must have got it.

23. Before I could answer, my distaste confirmed the suspicion, and the servant coming up said I was detected. A person had been sent to my house, my wife and family had opened it all, and found the pocket book.

24. I told them the real fact, but every one unlikely to be true; even my stance was against me, and (my hearers look back upon it) I was arrested, and away to prison! I protested my innocence, did not wonder that I gained no credit.

25. I was now in great distress in my poor wife, my dear children, and my aged parents, were all at once plunged into misery, instead of the ease and comfort which we were expecting; for we were living at the height of our earthly wealth. However, one consolation left, that I was innocent, and I trusted that by perseverance and honesty, all might come right at last.

26. As I had been the cause

loss of the property, though without any design, I resolved, that I would offer the whole of our little store of money to make it good, as far as in my power.—

27. I therefore sent for my wife, to give her this sad commission : but she informed me, that even this sacrifice could be of no avail : for, said she, my master has been at the cottage, when I told him freely how you had found the note, but unfortunately had lost it again ; and I added, that I was sure, both I and my husband would make the best return in our power ; after which I produced our little fairing-box, and begged him to accept the contents, which had been so long raising, as all we had to offer :

28. But, sir, said the Waterman, conceive my distress, when she added, that my master angrily refused, saying, that our being in possession of all that money, was of itself, the clearest proof of my guilt : for it was impossible, with my large family, and no greater opportunities than my neighbours, that I could come honestly by such a sum ; therefore he was determined to keep me in gaol, till I should pay the whole.

29. My unhappiness was very great ; However, my mind, by degrees, began to be more easy, for I grew confident that I should not trust in God, and my own innocence, in vain, and so it happened ; for one of my fellow labourers proved to be the person, who had picked up the note, after I had dropped it, having come a few minutes after me along the same way to his work.

30. And hearing that the suspicion had fallen

altogether upon me, he was tempted to turn the accident to his own advantage, and conceal the property ; which having kept in his own box for a few weeks, till he thought no suspicion would rest upon him, he went and offered the note for change, and being then suspected, my master had him taken up, and I was released.

31. This second change from so much misery to happiness, was almost too much for me ! My master sent for me, and with many expressions of concern for what had passed, made me give him an account of the means, by which I had collected the little fund, that fixed his suspicions so strongly upon me.

32. I accordingly related the history of it, as I have now done ; and when I came to that part, where I had checked my children for their inconsiderate joy, on my finding the note, he rose with much kindness in his looks, and putting the bank bill into my hands, he said, "Take it—the bank note shall be theirs.

33. "It is the best and only return I can make you, as well as a just reward for your honesty ; and it will be a substantial proof to your children of the goodness of your instructions ; for they will thus early see and feel the benefit of honesty and virtue."

34. This kind and worthy gentleman interested himself much in the purchase of my boat, which, in less than a week, I was in full possession of.

35. The remainder of my master's bounty, and the additional advantage of the ferry, have placed me in comfortable circumstances, which

I humbly trust in God will continue to us, as long as we continue our labour and honest diligence ; and I can say from my long experience, that the fruit of our own industry is always the sweetest.

36. I have now also the pleasure of being able to help others ; for when a rich passenger takes my ferry, as my story is well known in the neighbourhood, he often gives me more than my fare, which enables me to let the next poor person to go over for half price.

37. The lady and gentleman were exceedingly pleased with the Waterman's story, and willingly joined in calling him the *Happy Waterman*. They passed over in his ferry boat, for the sake of making him a handsome present.

38. And from this time, becoming acquainted with his family, they did them every service in their power, giving books and schooling to the little ones, and every comfort to the old father and mother-in-law, as long as they survived.

39. As for the unfortunate man, who had so dreadfully gone aside from the principles of honesty, as to conceal the bank note before mentioned, he was, after a short imprisonment, set at liberty, at the earnest entreaty of the honest Waterman ; as he said it was partly through his carelessness, in losing the note, that the temptation had fallen in his fellow labourer's way.

40. He had, moreover, a very large family ; his master also was so good as to consider that he was a man who had not been blessed

with a good education in his youth, and having little fear of God before his eyes. When a great temptation in his way, he had more easily led to commit this very action, by which he would have enriched at the expense of an innocent man.

41. I have a great pleasure in the thought of what he had done, to the generosity of the waterman, had an effect upon this poor fellow, the words had it written upon his cottage as you would be done unto.

42. And he resolved to follow the self, in future, and also taught it to the children : Indeed, it became a rule well known to the whole parish ; for every little child, when informed of this story, was thought to consider, before he did anything, whether he would like to have his sister, or school-fellow do the same thing, if not, that the action was wrong, and not to be done.

43. Surely, then, those that have seen much of the world, and have received religious instruction also, should not depart from this simple and certain rule. There is no station, however great, nor any circumstances, however trying, which will excuse persons from adhering closely to it.

THE DOG.

1. A water-spaniel, belonging to a neighbour, was a frequent, and always a welcome guest, in the family of Euphronius. Her placid looks, gentle manners, and assiduity to please, rendered her equally the favourite of the servants, and of the children.

2. It happened, that there was a general alarm, in that place, concerning mad dogs ; and to guard against danger, Sylvia was closely confined to her kennel. A week elapsed, without a single visit from her ; no one knew the cause of her absence, and all lamented it.

3. She at length returned ; the children flocked with joy and eagerness around her, but they beheld her trembling, feeble and drooping. She crawled over the kitchen floor ; looked wistfully at Emilia ; then at Jacobus ; then at Lucy : Advancing a step forwards, she licked the hand of Alexis, which was stretched forth to stroke her, and expired at his feet without a groan.

4. The children, at first, stood silent and motionless ; a gush of tears succeeded ; and Euphronius, their parent, though pleased with the affection they showed, thought it necessary to soften grief, upon this occasion : This he did, by relating to them the history of the canine species at large.

5. I am not surprised, said he, that you should lament the loss of an animal, which nature seems to have designed to be the favourite and friend

of man. The beauty of his shape, agility, swiftness, courage, gentleness, and gratitude, command our affection, and give him the justest claim to our consideration.

6. In obedience and docility every other animal ; and so perfectly domesticated, that Mr. Buffon observes in his disposition, the family dog lives. Amongst the proud, he is distinguished as churlish amongst clowns.

7. In Congo, Angola, and South Africa, where dogs are found wild, they unprovokedly attack the fiercest animals. On the southern coast of Africa, it is said that there are dogs that neither bark nor bite, and that their flesh is highly valued by the negroes.

8. The flesh of this animal is also considered as a dainty by the Chinese, and public houses are erected for the sale of it. In Canton is a street appropriated to that purpose, and what is very extraordinary, when a dog appears, all the dogs in the place put up a full cry. They seem to know their master, and persecute him as far as they are able.

9. The influence of climate, and the art, have produced many varieties in the breed of dogs. The British mastiffs were among the Romans, that their emperor appointed officers to train them for combats.

10. Two of these were esteemed as a bear, and four for a lion. But an attempt was made in the tower of London, by

the First, from which it appeared, that three mastiffs conquered that noble animal. Two of them were disabled in the conflict : but the third forced the lion to seek his safety by flight.

11. The British mastiffs were also educated for war, and were employed by the Gauls in their battles, as we learn from Strabo. Linnæus has delivered, in the following terms, the natural history of the dog.

12. This animal eats flesh and some kinds of vegetables. His stomach digests bones. He uses the tops of grass as a vomit. He laps his drink with his tongue. His scent is most exquisite when his nose is moist. He scarcely ever sweats : but when hot he lolls out his tongue. His sense of hearing is very quick when asleep.

13. He is the most faithful of all animals ; is very teachable ; hates strange dogs ; snaps at a stone when thrown at him ; howls at certain musical notes ; and barks at strangers. This animal is rejected by the Mahometans.

14. My dog, the trustiest of his kind,
With gratitude inflames my mind :
I mark his true, his faithful way,
And in my service copy Tray.



THE STORY OF HESTER WILMOT.

1. Hester Wilmot was born in the parish of Weston, in Old England, of parents who maintained themselves by their labour.

2. They were both of them ungodly wonder, therefore, they were unhappy lived badly together, and how could they wise, for their tempers were very diff they had no religion to smooth down t ence, or to teach them to bear with ea faults.

3. Rebecca Wilmot was a proof, th may have some right qualities, and y bad characters. She was clean, notab dustrious.

4. Now, I know, some folks fancy poor, who have these qualities, need others ; but this is a sad mistake, as l every page in the bible will show ; a pity people do not read it more.

5. Rebecca was of a violent, ung temper, and that very neatness, which so pleasing, became in her a sin ; for only desire seemed to be to have her h oned the nicest in the parish.

6. Rebecca was also a proof, that a man may be as vain as a rich one ; not so much the comfort of neatness, as of it, which she coveted. A spot on h or a bit of rust on her brass candlesti throw her into a violent passion.

7. Now it is very right to keep t clean, and the candlestick bright ; but wrong to set one's affections on an he candlestick, in such a manner as to m self unhappy, if any trifling accident l them ; and if Rebecca had been as carel her heart without spot, and her life wi

nish, as she was to keep her fire-irons clean and bright, she would have been held up in history, not as a warning, but as a pattern ; and in that case, her nicety would have come in for a part of the praise.

8. It was no fault in Rebecca, but a merit, that her oak table was so bright, that you could see your face in it ; but it was no merit, but a fault, that when John, her husband, laid down his cup of beer upon it, so as to leave a mark, she would fly out into so terrible a passion, that all the children were forced to run to corners.

9. Now poor John, having no corner to run to, ran to the ale-house, till that which was at first a refuge too soon became a pleasure.

10. Rebecca never wished her children to learn to read, because she said it would only serve to make them lazy, and she herself had done very well without it. She would keep poor Hester from church to stone the space before the door, in fine patterns and whim-whams.

11. I don't pretend to say there was any harm in this little decoration ; it looks pretty enough ; and it is better to let the children do that, than do nothing.

12. But still, these are not things to set one's heart upon ; and besides, Rebecca only did it as a trap for praise ; for she was sulky and disappointed, if any ladies happened to call in, and did not seem delighted with the flowers, which she used to draw with a burnt stick on the whitewash of the chimney corners.

13. Besides, all this finery was often done on a Sunday, and there is a great deal of harm in do-

ing right things at a wrong time, or in much time on things which are of no real in doing any thing at all out of vanity.

14. Now I beg that no lazy slattern of will go and take any comfort in her dirt what is here said against Rebecca's nice I believe, that for one who makes her unhappy through neatness, twenty do so and laziness. All excesses are wrong ; the excess of a good quality is not so common excess of a bad one.

15. John Wilmot was not an ill-nature but he had no fixed principle. Instead of himself to cure his wife's faults by mild and a good example, he was driven by the still greater faults himself.

16. It is a common case with people who no religion, when any cross accident befall instead of trying to make the best of a bad instead of considering their trouble as a trial from God to purify them, or instead of considering the faults of others as a punishment for own sins, what do they do, but either sink at once into despair, or else run for comfort evil courses.

17. Drinking is the common remedy for sorrow, if that can be called a remedy, the which is to destroy both soul and body. now began to spend all his leisure hours Bell. He used to be fond of his children when he found he could not come home in and play with the little ones, while his wife fed him a bit of hot supper, he grew, in not to come home at all.

18. He who has once taken to drink, can seldom be said to be guilty of one sin only. John's heart became hardened. His affection for his family was lost in self-indulgence. Patience and submission on the part of his wife, might have won much upon a man of John's temper ; but instead of trying to reclaim him, his wife seemed rather to delight in putting him as much in the wrong as she could, that she might be justified in her constant abuse of him.

19. I doubt whether she would have been as much pleased with his reformation, as she was with always talking of his faults ; though I know it was the opinion of the neighbours, that if she had taken as much pains to reform her husband, by reforming her own temper, as she did to abuse him and expose him, her endeavours might have been blessed with success.

20. Hester was the eldest of their five children. She was a sharp sensible girl ; but at fourteen years old she could not tell a letter, nor had she ever been taught to bow her knee to him who made her : for John's or rather Rebecca's house, had seldom the name of God pronounced in it except to be blasphemed.

21. It was just about this time, if I mistake not, that Mrs. Jones set up her Sunday-school, of which Mrs. Betty Crew was appointed mistress. The design of this school was to teach the children of poor people to read their bibles, to give them religious instruction, and to see that they attended public worship in a decent and becoming manner.

22. Mrs. Jones, finding that none of the Wil-

mots were sent to school, took a walk to Rebecca's house, and civilly told her, she called to let her know that a school was opened, to which she desired her to send her children, on the Sunday following ; especially her eldest daughter, Hester.

23. " Well," said Rebecca, " and what will you give her, if I do ? " " Give her ! " replied Mrs. Jones, " that is rather a rude question, and asked in a rude manner ; however as a soft answer turneth away wrath, I assure you that I will give her the best of learning ; I will teach her to fear God and keep his commandments."

24. " I had rather you would teach her to fear me, and to keep my house clean," said this wicked woman. " She shan't come, however, unless you will pay her for it."

25. " Pay her for it!" said the lady, " will it not be reward enough, that she will be taught to read the Word of God, without any expense to you ? For though many gifts both of books and clothing will be made to the children, yet you are not to consider these gifts so much in the light of payment, as an expression of good will in your benefactors."

26. " I say," interrupted Rebecca, " that Hester shan't go to school. Religion is of no use, that I know of, but to make people hate their own flesh and blood ; and I see no good in learning, but to make folks proud, and lazy, and dirty. I cannot tell a letter myself ; and though I say it, *that should not say it*, there is not a notabler woman in the parish."

27. "Pray," said Mrs. Jones, mildly, "do you think that young people will disobey their parents the more, for being taught to fear God?"

"I don't think any thing about it," said Rebecca, "I shan't let her come, and there's the long and short of the matter. Hester has other fish to fry; but you may have some of these little ones, you will."

28. "No," said Mrs. Jones, "I will not; I have not set up a nursery, but a school. I am not at all this expense to take crying babes out of the mother's way, but to instruct reasonable beings. And it ought to be a rule, in all schools, not to take the troublesome young children, unless the mother will try to spare the elder ones, who are capable of learning."

29. "But," said Rebecca, "I have a young child which Hester must nurse, while I dress dinner.—And she must iron the rags, and scour the irons, and dig the potatoes, and fetch the water to boil them."

30. "As to nursing the child, that is indeed a necessary duty, and Hester ought to stay at home part of the day, to enable you to go to church; and families should relieve each other, in this way."

31. "But as to all the rest, they are no reasons at all; for the irons need not be scoured so often, and the rags should be ironed, and the potatoes dug, and the water fetched, on the Saturday; and I can tell you, that neither your conscience nor your judge hereafter, will accept of any such excuses."

32. *All this while, Hester staid behind, pale*

and trembling, lest her unkind mother carry her point. She looked up at Mr. Jones with so much love and gratitude as to win affection, and this good lady went on trying to win this harsh mother.

33. At last Rebecca condescended to say, "Well I don't know but I may let her come now and then, when I can spare her, if you find you make it worth her while."

34. All this time, she had never asked Mr. Jones to sit down, nor had she ever bid her children to be quiet; though they were always crying and squalling the whole time. Rebecca thought this rudeness was the only way she had of showing that she thought herself as good as her mother, but Mrs. Jones never lost her temper.

35. The moment she went out of the house, Rebecca called out loud enough for her to hear, and ordered Hester to get the stone and sand to scrub out the prints of that dirty shoes. Hester, in high spirits, cheerfully obeyed, and rubbed out the stains so neatly, that her mother could not help lamenting, that she was a girl was going to be spoiled, by being in the company of such a good girl.

36. After this, Hester never failed to go to the school, whenever her perverse mother would give her leave; and her delight in learning was so great, that she would work early and late, to gain a little time for her book.

37. As she had a quick capacity, she was soon to spell and read, and Mrs. Crew, finding her diligence, used to lend her a book to carry home, that she might pick up a few odd times.

38. To give or lend books to those who have no delight in them, is an useless expense : but it is laudable to assist well disposed young people with every help of this sort. Those who love books, seldom hurt them ; while the slothful, who hate learning, will wear out a book more in a week, than the diligent will do in a year.

39. Hester's way was to read over one question in her catechism, or one verse in her hymn book, by fire-light, before she went to bed ; this she thought over in the night, and when she was dressing herself in the morning, she was glad to find she always knew a little more than she did the morning before.

40. It is not to be believed, how much those people will be found to have gained, at the end of a year, who are accustomed to work up all the little odd ends and remnants of time ; who are convinced that minutes are no more to be wasted than pence.

41. Nay, he who finds he has wasted a shilling may by diligence hope to fetch it up again ; but no repentance or industry can ever bring back one wasted hour. My good young reader, if ever you are tempted to waste an hour, go and ask a dying man, what he would give for that hour, which you are throwing away ; and according as he answers so do you act.

42. As her mother hated the sight of a book, Hester was forced to learn out of sight : it was no disobedience to do this, as long as she wasted no part of that time, which it was her duty to spend in useful labour She would have

thought it a sin to have left her work for book ; but she did not think it wrong to take time from her sleep, and to be learning an hour before the rest of the family were awake.

43. Hester would not neglect the washing-tub, or the spinning-wheel, even to get over her catechism ; but she thought it fair to devote some of her questions, while she was washing and spinning. In a few months, she was able to recite fluently in St. John's gospel, which is the best.

44. But Mrs. Crew did not think it enough that her children could read a chapter ; she so laboured to make them understand it by this means, they became acquainted with the great truths of religion, and those who attended the school to observe the progress which was made, were very well pleased to see the children attentive to the best things.

45. As poor Hester had no comfort at home, it was the less wonder she delighted in the school, her bible, and church, for so great was God's goodness, that he is pleased to make religion a peculiar comfort to those, who have no other comfort.

46. The God, whose name she had never heard, but when it was taken in vain, was revealed to her as a God of infinite power, justice and holiness. What she read in the Bible, and what she felt, in her own heart, convinced her that she was a sinner, and that without pardon and sanctification she could not be happy.

47. While she was thinking upon her

erable state, she opened her Bible and read these words of Christ, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me ; for I am meek and lowly in heart ; and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

48 And then turning back a leaf or two, she read as follows—"Ask, and it shall be given you ; seek, and ye shall find ; knock, and it shall be opened unto you : For every one that asketh receiveth ; and he that seeketh findeth ; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

49. She afterwards read these words of the apostle, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

50. From these passages of Scripture she was encouraged to seek for the mercy of God, and it was not long before she entertained a hope, that her sins were forgiven, that Jesus Christ was her Saviour, that the Holy Spirit was her Sanctifier, and that the blessed God was her Friend and Portion.

51. She then felt herself very happy, and resolved by God's grace, that she would renounce all the vanities of the world, and live a religious life. Indeed she enjoyed a thousand times more satisfaction in such a life, than ever she did in her happiest days before.

52. And she became so well acquainted with the Bible, and with the principles of her religion, that she was able to converse with propriety upon divine subjects, to answer the objec-

tions of her late sinful companions, and to commend to them the ways of wisdom.

53. A very favourable opportunity for this presented itself to her, on a certain day. Happening to call on three young persons, who had been her associates in the days of her folly, she found them sitting in a room by themselves.

54. They had just been conversing about the change which had taken place in Hester, and lamenting that her days of pleasure were gone. One of them was so honest as to tell her of this ; and they all advised her to give up religion, because they said it would make her melancholy and sad, and cause all the gay young people to shun her.

55. Hester, upon this, asked them what they judged religion to be ? They paused for some time—looked at each other—gave a smile—and replied, They did not know.

56. Then said Hester, I will tell you ; It is to love and serve our God and Creator. Is there any thing in this to make us melancholy ? Be so good as to answer my question. Is loving and serving God calculated to make a person melancholy ? They answered, No.

57. Well, religion also consists in believing that God forgiveth all our sins, for the sake of his Son Jesus Christ. Is this likely to make us melancholy ? No, said they, we do not think it is. Is the hope that God is our friend, and that we are his, calculated to make us unhappy ? No, *surely* not.

58. Again, said Hester, you know it is very *natural* to be afraid of death : but it is a part

religion, to be delivered from that fear : is that likely to make us gloomy ? They said, No.

59. God also promises to his friends, that he will be with them in affliction and in trouble, to support and comfort them, and to make their trials do them good : it is a part of real religion to believe these promises. Is this likely to make people melancholy ?

60. Now they all gazed at each other. One more talkative than the rest, said, Sisters, did you ever think before what religion was ? I am certain I never did. I do not imagine that these things can make people unhappy.

61. I wonder what our friends and acquaintance mean, by always saying such terrible things about religion. If what Hester says be true, I think nobody can be truly happy till they are religious ; what think you ?

62. Indeed, said one, I am of the same opinion : and so am I, said the other. After this candid declaration, Hester seized the opportunity to warn them against taking up false reports against persons or things, without ever examining to their truth, and earnestly entreated them to tend to the great concerns of their souls, and to consider the awful danger of living in the world without seeking and serving God.

63. She protested before them, that she never had a happy day, till she found an interest in Christ, and that she never was contented till then. She spake to them of the wondrous love of God, in providing such a saviour as Jesus, and in bringing her to read and hear of him, to think of him, and to believe on him.

64. Though the last trumpet should, *at th*
moment sound, (said she,) I would not *tre*
ble !—Though the angel should now *proclai*
that time should be no longer, yet would I *re*
joice in the Lord, and trust in the God of my *sal*
vation !

65. They wept bitterly at these solemn words
and went out of the room, seriously *thinki*
on what they had heard : and one of them *after*
wards turned out a pious girl, and walked with
Hester in the pleasant and peaceful paths of re-
ligion.

THE SECOND PART OF THE STORY OF HESTER WILMOT.

1. Hester Wilmot, I am sorry to observe, *had*
been by nature peevish and lazy ; she would now
and then slight her work ; and when her mother
was very unreasonable, she was too apt to return
her a saucy answer.

2. But after she became religious these evi-
tempers were, in a good measure subdued
for she now learnt to imitate not her violent
mother, but *Him who was meek and lowly i*
heart.

3. When she was scolded for doing ill, *sh*
prayed for grace to do better ; and when her
mother charged religion with making people
lazy, her only answer was to strive to do twice

such work, in order to prove, that it really
e them diligent.

The only thing in which she ventured to
bey her mother was, that when she ordered
to do week's work on Sunday, Hester cried,
said "She did not dare disobey God;" but
now that she did not wish to save her own la-
; she would do a double portion of work on
Saturday night, and rise two hours earlier on
Monday morning.

Once, when she had worked very hard, her
er told her she would treat her with a holi-
the following Sabbath, and take her a fine
: to eat cakes, and drink ale, at Weston-fair,
h, though it was professed to be kept on
day, yet to the disgrace of the village, al-
s began on Sunday evening.

Rebecca, who would on no account have
ed the Monday, which was a working day,
lness and pleasure, did not scruple to enjoy
elf at the fair, on the Sunday evening, and to
her children with her.

Hester, however, earnestly begged to be
at home, and her mother, in a rage, went
out her. A wet walk, and more ale than she
used to drink, gave Rebecca a dangerous
r.

During her illness, Hester, who would
follow her to a scene of mirth and folly, at-
ed her night and day, and denied herself ne-
aries, that her sick mother might have com-
h.

And though she secretly prayed to God,
this sickness might change her mother's

heart, yet she never once reproach put her in mind, that it was caught herself in a sinful pleasure.

10. Another Sunday night, her Hester, he thought she had been at enough for him to have a little learning, so he desired she would read and read to him.

11. Hester cheerfully ran and Testament, John fell a laughing, called and said, "it would be time enough Testament to him, when he was going at present, he must have something saying, he gave her a song book, which he picked up at the Bell.

12. Hester having cast her eyes refused to read it, saying, "she did not God by reading what would hurt her John called her a canting hypocrite, would put the Testament in the fire there was not a more merry girl than before she became religious.

13. Her mother for once took notice because she thought her daughter but because she was glad of any show her husband was in the wrong herself would have abused Hester for nothing, if John had taken her part. shocking oath, abused them both, and a violent passion.

14. Hester, instead of saying a word against her father, took up order to teach her little sisters: she was so provoked at her for not jo

her abuse of her husband, that she changed her humour, said John was in the right, and Hester a perverse hypocrite, who only made religion a pretence for being undutiful to her parents.

15 Hester bore all in silence, and committed her cause to Him who judgeth righteously.— It would have been a great comfort to her, if she had dared to go and open her heart to Mrs. Crew, and to have joined in the religious exercises of the evening, at school : but her mother refused to let her, saying it would only harden her heart in mischief.

16. Hester said not a word, but after having put the little ones to bed, and heard them say their prayers out of sight, she went and sat down in her own little room, and said to herself, “ It would be pleasant to me to have taught my little sisters to read : I thought it my duty, for David has said, *Come ye children, hearken unto me, I will teach you the fear of the Lord.*

17. “ It would have been still more pleasant to have passed the evening at school, because I am still ignorant, and fitter to learn than to teach ; but I cannot do either, without flying in the face of my mother.

18. “ God sees fit, to-night, to change my pleasant duties into a painful trial. I give up my will, and submit to the will of my father : but when he orders me to commit a known sin, then I dare not do it, because, in so doing, I must disobey my Father which is in heaven.”

19. Now it so fell out, that this dispute happened on the very Sunday next before Mrs.

Jones' yearly feast. On May attended her to church, each of their own earning, and a of her giving.

20. After church, there made into the learning and school, and those who had provement, and brought the industry, humility, and obe Bible, or some other good bo

21. Now Hester had be hoarding up her little savings, with a new gown, on the M had never got less than two her spinning, besides working earning a trifle by odd jobs.

22. This money she faithful mother every Saturday night consent, only two pence a gown. The sum was comple long been settled, and He the Monday morning, to go her money, and bring hom made.

23. Her mother happene morning early, to iron in a where she usually stayed a da ter was busy putting the hous she went to the shop.

24. On that very Monday, meeting at the Bell, of all the parish. John Wilmot of cour

25. Indeed he had accept the blacksmith to a batch

Blacksmith was flush of money ; but John thought himself the best player ; and that he might make sure of winning, he resolved to keep himself sober, which he knew was more than the other could do.

26. John was so used to go upon trust for ale, that he got to the door of the Bell before he recollected that he could not keep his word with the gambler without money, and he had not a penny in his pocket, so he sullenly turned homewards.

27. He dared not apply to his wife, as he knew she should be more likely to get a scratched face, than a six-pence from her, but he knew that Hester had received two shillings, for her last week's spinning, on Saturday, and perhaps she might not yet have given it to her mother. Of the hoarded sum he knew nothing.

28. He asked her if she could lend him half a crown, and he would pay her next day. Hester, pleased to see him in good humour, after what had passed the night before, ran up and fetched down her little box, and in the joy of her heart, that he now desired something she could comply with without wounding her conscience, cheerfully poured out her whole little stock upon the table.

29. John was in raptures at the sight of three half-crowns and a six-pence, and eagerly seized it, box and all, together with a few hoarded half-pence at the bottom, though he had only asked to borrow half a crown.

30. None but one whose heart was hardened by a long course of drunkenness, could have ta-

ken away the whole, and for such a pur told her she should certainly have it a morning, and indeed intended to pay it, n ing but he should double the sum.

31. But John over-rated his own skill for he lost every farthing to the blacks sneaked home before midnight, and quie ed up to bed. He was quite sober, whi ter thought a good sign.

32. Next morning, she asked him, in humble way for the money, which she would not have done, but that if the g not bought directly, it would not be time for the feast.

33. John's conscience had troubled h tle for what he had done, for when he drunk, he was not ill-natured, and he st out a broken excuse, but owned he ha money, and had not a farthing left.

34. The moment Hester saw him : kind, her heart was softened, and she be not to vex himself ; adding that she woul tented never to have a new gown, as lo lived, if she could have the comfort c seeing him come home as sober as he night.

35. For Hester did not know that he frained from getting drunk, only that : gamble with a better chance of success, when a gamester keeps himself sober, that he may practice a virtue, but tha commit a worse crime.

36. "I am indeed sorry for what done," said he, "you cannot go to tl

and what will Madam Jones say?" "Yes, but I can," said Hester, "for God looks not at the gown, but at the heart, and I am sure he sees mine full of gratitude at hearing you talk so kindly; and if I thought my dear father would change his present evil courses, I should be the happiest girl at the feast to-morrow."

37. John walked away mournfully, and said to himself, "Surely there must be something in religion, since it can thus change the heart. Hester was a pert girl, and now she is as mild as a lamb.—She was an indolent girl, and now she is up with the lark. She was a vain girl, and would do any thing for a new ribbon; and now she is contented to go in rags to a feast, at which every one else will have a new gown."

38. She deprived herself of the gown to give me the money, and yet this very girl would submit to be turned out of doors, rather than read a loose book at my command, or break the sabbath.

39. "I do not understand this, there must be some mystery in it." All this he said as he was going to work. In the evening he did not go to the Bell: Whether it was owing to his new thoughts, or to his not having a penny in his pocket, I will not take upon me positively to say; but I believe it was a little of one, and a little of the other.

40. On May-day morning, Hester, instead of keeping from the feast because she had not a

new gown, or meanly inventing any excuse, dressed herself out as neatly as she could, in her poor old things, and went to join the school, in order to go to church.

41. To be sure, there was a great hue and cry made, at seeing Hester Wilmot, the neatest girl, the most industrious girl in the school, come to the May-day feast in an old gown, when every other girl was so creditably dressed.

42. And, to tell the truth, Mrs. Jones was as much surprised as the rest at Hester's mean garb: but such is the power of a good character, that she gave her credit for a right intention, especially as she knew the unhappy state of her family.

43. For it was Mrs. Jones' way always to wait, and enquire into the truth, before she condemned any person of good character, though appearances might be against them. Hester, when she was sneered at, by some of the girls, never offered to clear herself by exposing her father; though she thought it right secretly to inform Mrs. Jones of what had passed.

44. When the examination began, Betty Stiles, one of the girls, was asked some questions on the fourth and fifth commandments, which she answered very well. Hester was asked nearly the same questions, and though she answered them no better than Betty had done, they were all surprised to see Mrs. Jones rise up, and give a handsome Bible to Hester, while she gave nothing to Betty.

45. This girl cried out rather pertly, "What

en, it is very hard that I have no book ; I was as perfect as Hester." "I have often told you," said Mrs. Jones, "that religion is not a thing of the tongue but of the heart. That girl gives the best proof that she has learned the fourth commandment to good purpose, who persists in keeping holy the Sabbath day, though commanded to break it by a parent whom she loves.

46. "And that girl best proves that she keeps the fifth, who gives up her own comfort, and clothing, and credit, to honour and obey her father and mother, even though they are not such as she would wish them to be.

47. "Betty Stiles, though she could answer the questions so readily, went a nutting last Sunday, when she should have been at school and at church, and she refused to nurse her sick mother, when she could not help herself."

48. The pleasure Hester felt in receiving a new Bible, made her forget that she had on an old gown. She walked to church in a thankful frame ; but how great was her joy, when she saw, among a number of working men, her own father going into church.

49. As she past by him, she cast on him a look of so much joy and affection, that it brought tears into his eyes, especially when he compared her mean dress with that of the other girls, and thought who had been the cause of it. John, who had not been to church for some years, was deeply struck with the service.

50. The truths of God's word which he heard, went to his heart. He felt, for the first time,

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that he was a *miserable sinner* and in the ro
eath. He now felt compunction for a
general, though it was only his ill behavior
his daughter which had brought him to chu

51. When the service was over, instea
joining his former companions, and going to
Bell, he quietly walked back to his work
was, indeed, the best day's work he ever r

52. He could not get out of his mind, the v
day, the words of the text. *Let the wicked
sake his way, and the unrighteous man his thou
and let him return unto the Lord, and he will
mercy on him, and to our God, for he will c
dantly pardon.*

53. At night, he went home, intending t
Hester to forgive him : but as soon as he
the door, he heard Rebecca rating his da
for having brought such a disgrace on the
as to be seen in that old rag of a gown, and
ed on knowing what she had done with tl
ney.

54. Hester tried to keep the secret,
mother declared she would turn her
doors, if she did not tell the truth. He
at last forced to confess that she had g
her father.

55. Unfortunately for poor John, it
very moment he opened the door. Th
now divided her fury between her
band, and her innocent child, till from
fell to blows. John defended his da
received some of the strokes inte
girl.

56. At length Hester escaped up stairs, not a little bruised, and a scene of much violence passed between John and Rebecca. She declared she would not sit down to supper with such a brute, and set off to a neighbour's house, that she might have the pleasure of abusing him the longer.

57. John, whose mind was much disturbed, went up stairs without his supper. As he was passing by Hester's little room, he heard her voice, and as he concluded she was venting bitter complaints against her unnatural parents, he stopped to listen, resolving to go in and comfort her.

58. He stopped at the door, for by the light of the moon, he saw her kneeling by her bedside, and praying so earnestly, that she did not hear him.

59. As he supposed she could be praying for nothing but his death, what was his surprise to hear these words : "O Lord have mercy upon my dear father and mother, teach me to love them, to pray for them, and do them good ; make me more dutiful, and more patient, that I may recommend the religion of my blessed Saviour, and that my dear parents may be brought to love and fear thee."

60. Poor John, who would never have been hard hearted, if he had not been a drunkard, could not stand this. He fell down on his knees, embraced his child, and begged her to teach him how to pray. He prayed himself as well as *he could*, and though he did not know *what words to use*, yet his heart was affected, and

he shed many tears over his sinful and wretched state.

61. Hester endeavoured to encourage him, and to point out to him the Saviour of sinners, and in this manner they spent some hours together. This was, on the whole, a happy evening to Hester.—Seeing the change in her father gave her more satisfaction than all the new clothes in the world would have done.

62. After this, Hester frequently read to him out of the Bible, and other good books, which he obtained of Mrs. Jones, by means of which he became, every day, more and more confirmed in the resolution which he had taken to renounce his sinful courses, and seek the salvation of his soul.

63. From his constant prayer, that he might be preserved from relapsing again into his former state, a few weeks, he obtained a hope, that he should ere pardoned, and that he had experienced the sanctifying grace of God ; which was a joyful event to his pious daughter, and to himself.

64. From this time, he bore his wife's illness better than he had ever done ; and endeavoured to have her to be neat, and notable, and saving, he began to think, that if her temper were not quite so bad, his home might still become as pleasant a place to him as ever the Bell had been ; but unless she became more tractable, he did not know what to do with his long evening, after his little ones were in bed, for he began once more to delight in playing with them.

65. As John had never learned to read, Hester proposed that she should teach him an hour, every night, and he consented. Rebecca began to storm from the mere trick she had got of storming; but finding that he now brought home all his earnings, and that she got both his money and his company, (for she had once loved him,) she began to be reconciled to this new way of life.

66. In a few months, John could read a psalm. In learning to read it, he also got it by heart, and this proved a little store for private devotion, and while he was mowing he could call to mind a text to cheer his labour.

67. He now went constantly to church, and often dropped in at the school, on a Sunday evening, to hear their prayers. He found so much pleasure in this, that he soon ventured to set up family prayer at home.

68. For a few nights, Rebecca continued to sit, or pretended to rock the young child, while her husband and daughter were kneeling at their prayers. She expected John would have scolded at her for this, and so perverse was her temper, that she was disappointed and vexed at his finding no fault with her.

69. Seeing at last that he was very patient, and that though he prayed fervently himself, he suffered her to do as she liked, she lost the spirit of opposition for the want of something to provoke it.

70. As she began to attend to the devotions of the family, some little disposition to seriousness was awakened in her soul. She found that she

in family prayer, and when her daughter
the Scriptures, she listened with much
Hester rejoiced greatly in this outwa
in her mother, and prayed that God
pleased effectually to work in her, by
as she hoped he had done in her father

72. As John now spent no idle n
had saved up a trifle, by working ov
this he kindly offered to Hester, to m
the loss of her gown. Instead of ac
Hester told him, that as she herself
and healthy, she should soon be able
herself out of her own savings, and b
to make her mother a present of t
which he did.

73. It had been a maxim of Rebec
was better not to go to church at all,
in an old gown. She had, however, s
quered this evil notion, that she had
tended public worship pretty often.

m church : and it was soon apparent, that Rebecca's heart was truly changed, and that she had come a *new creature*.

76. There was one thing, which Rebecca ~~k~~ particular notice of, and that was, that ce her husband had become religious, he had en so careful not to give her any offence, that had become scrupulously clean : took off his ty shoes before he sat down, and was very itious not to spill a drop of beer on her shing table.

77. And it was rather remarkable, that as John ew more neat, Rebecca grew more indifferent neatness. But both these changes arose from e same cause—the growth of religion in their arts.

78. John grew cleanly from the fear of giving pain to his wife ; while Rebecca grew indifferent, because she had discovered the sin and nity of an over anxious care about trifles.

79. And now what a change do we behold in s once unhappy family ! And how excellent a ng is that religion, which will produce such effects as these !

80. If all parents and all children, were to come Christians, and to live and act according the rules of the Gospel, how happy would ey be, and what happy neighbourhoods would ey form ! And how important is it, that persons should become religious when they are ung, that they may grow up in the fear of od, and be blessed in life, in death, and in ernity !

INTEGRITY REWARDED.

1. At a small village in the western part of England, there lived a poor widow, who made a livelihood by carding and spinning wool. She had but one son, for whose sake she cheerfully underwent the fatigue of working early and late.

2. James, for that was his name, was a good boy, and when he was quite young his mother contrived to save out of her earnings enough to send him to school, a part of the year.

3. He was so very attentive to his book, that in a short time his master declared, that he was the best scholar of his age in the village. James endeavoured to repay his mother's kindness by every mark of duty.

4. Of an evening when he returned from school, instead of going to play with the children of the village, he would sit down and read scriptures to her, while she was employed in work; and he longed for the time, when he should be able to work himself for her support.

5. But alas! this happy period was never to arrive. For the poor woman was seized with fever, which in a short time put an end to her life. James was, at this time, between ten and eleven years of age.

6. For several days he wept almost continually, and refused to take comfort. But, by degrees, his grief abated, and he began to consider what course he had best pursue, to obtain a livelihood.

7. He offered his service to a neighbouring farmer who was called Ralph, and who, out of pity to the boy, and from the regard which he had for his good mother, took him into his family. Here he lived upwards of three years, and conducted himself so very well, that he was beloved by all who knew him.

8. In the same village, there lived the son of a poor cottager, who had been a school fellow of James. This youth, who was fifteen years of age, had just lost his father, and found himself possessed of four crowns: a sum which the dead man had left him, with which to begin the world.

9. Martin, for that was his name, was always extremely selfish and undutiful: he thought the four crowns amply compensated for the loss of his father, and began to consider in what manner to lay out the money to the best advantage.

10. He had been told, that in London places were to be had where servants lived like gentlemen. Such a place Martin thought would suit his taste better than to follow the plough or gather in the harvest. With his four crowns, therefore, he was resolved to set out, and try his fortune in London.

11. By chance meeting with James, he communicated his intention to him, setting forth the advantages which, he said, would certainly follow on his arrival.

12. James listened attentively to this discourse, and being naturally inclined to rely upon the judgment of others, he could not forbear sighing.

that he was deprived of sharing these advantages with Martin, for want of a little money to bear the expenses of his journey.

13. His mind ran so much upon the subject, that in the evening, when he returned to the farmer's, his discourse insensibly turned upon the intended journey of his friend, and he could not forbear uttering a wish, that it were in his power to accompany him.

14. The farmer asked him, what he could expect to gain by going to London? James replied, that from what he had been told, he should not fear gaining employment of some kind or other, and that if he had money to keep him on his journey, he should not hesitate to set out immediately.

15. Seeing him to be so much in earnest, the farmer asked him, what sum he thought would be sufficient for the purpose? James paused a moment, and then said, that he should not wish for more than six shillings.

16. Six shillings seemed a very small sum to perform a journey little short of 200 miles, but James, at present, knew very little of travelling, and affirmed he could make it do.

17. As he appeared to have his heart so much set on the journey, the good farmer, who was willing to do any thing which might be for his welfare, gave him the sum which he wished for together with some provisions for the way.

18. James with great joy and gratitude accepted the farmer's kindness, and set out the next day, with his friend Martin, for London.

19. The two lads travelled till some time in

ay, when growing very weary and in want of refreshment, they made toward a tree, and preparing to draw forth the contents of their wallets, when they looked back, and saw the pedlar, at a distance, making towards

Martin instantly threw his wallet across his shoulder again, and advised his companion to do the same, saying, that if the pedlar came to hear them, he would expect them to ask him to make up for the loss of their repast; "let us, said he, go to that clump of bushes, on the other side of the road, and then he will not see us."

"But why," said James, keeping his voice low, "should we be so mean as to hide ourselves from the poor man? he may not want our assistance, and if he does, I am sure he will be welcome to a part of what I have.—What should I have done, Martin, if my good friend the farmer, had been so churlish to

"I never think about other people," said Martin, "it is enough for me to take care of myself. If you are so rich," continued he, with a sneer, "that you can entertain travellers, I am sure I shall leave you to yourself." Saying this, Martin crossed to the other side of the road, and sitting down among the bushes, so that he could not be seen, like a true churl, devoured his meal alone.

James, in the mean time, took out a little loaf, and a piece of cheese, with which the good farmer had furnished his wallet, and beginning to eat, when the pedlar came up.

"My little lad," said he, "be so kind as to me to ease my shoulders of this box, for I borne it till I am weary."

24. James, who was always ready to ob instantly sprung upon his feet, and gave stranger the assistance he required. The man then sat down to rest under the same and was civilly invited by James to partake of homely fare. "I thank you, my good lad," the pedlar, "but we will first see what my affords."

25. So saying, he drew forth a large bag, took out of it some cold meat and bread, w bottle of excellent beer. "Come, my child, he, eat heartily of this, and if here be not en to satisfy us, we will make an end with bread and cheese."

26. James, who was a very modest bo first refused; but being warmly pressed b honest pedlar, who would take no denial, h to with a good appetite.

27. Their hunger being, in some measur satisfied, the pedlar asked his young compani what part of the country he was going, and l answered to London, he expressed great surp that he should attempt, at his age, to take a journey alone, and on foot.

28. James replied, that it was not long he parted with a companion, and that he ex ed him every moment to return; but he wa generous to discover upon what account M and he had separated.

29. The pedlar, who was much pleased *James*, expressed a desire to know farther

particulars respecting him : upon which James, in a few words, made him acquainted with his story, and the cause of his setting out upon so long a journey.

30. "My little lad," said he, when James had ended, "I fear you have heard a much better account of London than it deserves : however, as you seem resolved to try your fortune there, I will not discourage you. I am travelling the same road ; if, therefore, you incline to save expences, and will sometimes carry my box, you shall fare as I do, and we will jog on together, till we are tired of each other's company."

31. James was delighted with this generous offer, and expressed his thanks in the warmest terms, assuring the pedlar, that he thought himself happy in meeting with such a friend.

32. By this time Martin had made an end of his churlish meal, and came up to the tree to rejoin his companion. The pedlar, who was an open-hearted good-natured man, filled out a horn cup of beer, and offering it to him, "had you come sooner, my lad," said he, "you would have fared better, for you see we have just made an end of a cold shoulder of mutton ; but here is a cup of excellent beer, and your companion can supply you with bread and cheese."

33. Martin thanked the pedlar, and taking the cup, drank with as good a grace as he was able ; for he was extremely vexed, that through his over care, he had dined upon bread and cheese, when, if he had not been so selfish, he might, like his companion, have fared so much

better : and he was also in great fear, James had told the pedlar the real cause of his absence.

34. James, thinking to give his friend pleasure, acquainted him with the pedlar's kind offer. Martin was by far too selfish to rejoice in the good fortune of another ; and in this instance was ready to cry with vexation, to think of the advantages which he had lost by his greediness.

35. For he was persuaded, that had the pedlar seen him, before he engaged with James, he would have preferred him to the office of carrying his box, as being stronger, and more fit for the purpose.

36. Having reposed themselves for a short time beneath the tree, the pedlar proposed that they should continue their journey, and James, who was very mindful of his office, prepared to take up the box. The old man seeing his intention prevented him. " Stop, my good child," he, laying his hand upon the box, " I am not so rested, and as able to bear the burden as yourself ; when I am weary I will call for your assistance."

37. James however, could not be prevailed upon to relinquish the box. He begged him to carry it, saying that it would be a very unsightly sight, for an old man to bend under such a burden, and for two lads to walk at his side unladen. The honest pedlar at last yielded to the persuasions of his little friend, and suffered him to place the box upon his back ; after which they *cheerfully set forward.*

38. James tripped lightly along with his load ; and though the good-natured pedlar repeatedly offered to ease him of it, so anxious was he to express his gratitude, that he constantly refused to resign the box ; saying that he was very well able to carry it.

39. As for Martin, he made use of every art to insinuate himself into the esteem of the pedlar, with the base view of supplanting his friend ; and as a proof of his zeal and affection, he warmly opposed every attempt the good man made to resume his load, constantly telling him that it would fatigue him.

40. But all would not do. The pedlar, who was a shrewd man, and had seen a great deal of the world, instead of being won upon by these extraordinary civilities, took a dislike to Martin, whom he looked upon as being solely actuated by interest ; for why otherwise (said he to himself) does he suffer his old friend and companion James to toil on for so many miles, without once offering to ease him of his burden.

41. Towards evening they arrived at an inn, where they concluded to pass the night. When Martin understood that the pedlar designed to share his bed with James, he artfully drew him on one side, and advised him to let James sleep in one of the out-houses, adding at the same time, that he would pay him for half his bed, which would make the expense easier for both.

42. The honest pedlar, who really despised him for so basely endeavouring to supplant his friend, answered coolly, that he was already provided with a bed-fellow, and advised him to

seek a bed elsewhere. In the mean while, the pedlar called for some bread and cheese, and some ale, upon which he and James made cheerful supper.

43. As for Martin, though the generous pedlar invited him to partake with them, yet rather than endure the pain of witnessing his friend's happiness, he left a good supper, and pretended that he was very weary, retired to bed, where he could indulge the envy and rancour of his disposition, without being observed.

44. James, on the contrary, went to rest happy as a good supper and a good conscience could make him; and with a heart overflowing with gratitude, offered up his thanks and praise to God, who had raised him up, in the honest pedlar, so good a friend.

45. Early the next morning, they all set forward again on their journey. James, as he had done the preceding day, carried the box, and the great mortification of Martin, contrasted with the owner, who was so pleased with his honesty and good humour, that he grew every hour more and more attached to him.

46. While James and his good friend endeavoured to divert the length of the way by discoursing upon different subjects, Martin walked sullenly behind, wholly intent upon mischief. He was determined, if possible, to interrupt the happiness of James, and unluckily an opportunity for this soon offered.

47. For they had not travelled many hours before they turned into a road, on the one side of which was a deep ditch, more than half full

of mud. As they walked along, Martin artfully drew James to the brink of this ditch, and watching his opportunity, when the pedlar looked another way, slyly gave him a shove, and plunged the unfortunate lad headlong into the mire.

48. The good old pedlar alarmed, hastened to the assistance of his little friend, and with the help of the treacherous Martin, drew him, all over mud, out of the ditch. Happily he received no hurt from the accident; but the poor boy was under great apprehension, lest the goods contained in the pedlar's box were all spoiled.

49. However, on this account he was soon eased, for the box being close shut, but few of the articles were found to be damaged; so that a little fair water would soon cleanse them.

50. This was a great comfort to James, and equally a disappointment to his treacherous friend; who was in hopes the goods would have been spoiled, and that James would have lost the pedlar's favour. Having failed in the success of his wicked scheme, it was his business now to clear himself from the suspicion of being the author of it.

51. He attended James to a brook hard by, and was very diligent in assisting him to wash the mud off his clothes; during which he expressed so much concern for the accident, that the poor lad, who at first suspected and reproached him with his treachery, began to think (as Martin pretended) that the shove, which had knocked him into the ditch, was either the effect of accident, or given in sport.

52. James having cleansed his clothes and the pedlar's wares, they all three once more set out amicably together. James could not summon courage to ask for the box, fearing that the pedlar might not be willing to trust him with it in future: but Martin, who was never diffident, when he thought his interest concerned, warmly pressed his services upon the pedlar.

53. The old man, however, strongly suspecting that he was the cause of the late disaster, absolutely refused him, and persisted in his resolution of carrying the box for the present himself; which he accordingly did, till seeing James look very disconsolate, and judging that his trouble arose from the fear of not being restored to his office, he very kindly resigned it to his care.

54. Martin, however, could not yet give over the hope of supplanting the poor boy. He took an opportunity, when James was at such a distance that he could not hear him, to observe to the pedlar, that it was very unsafe to trust his box with a boy, who, from his carelessness, was liable to the same accident that had already happened, every time he should chance to pass a ditch; besides, said Martin, he is so poor, that it is ten to one if he will not be tempted to pilfer some of your goods.

55. Happily for James, these unjust insinuations made no other impression on the honest pedlar, than such as turned to the disgrace of his enemy. He clearly saw through Martin's drift, and whilst he heartily despised him for

aseness, he redoubled his kindness towards
s.

. But it was not long before the poor boy
deprived of his good friend. The pedlar
that same evening, seized with a complaint
s stomach, which proved mortal. Having
difficulty reached a small house of enter-
ent, he immediately took to his bed, from
h he justly concluded he should never rise

. James, who possessed the most grateful
affectionate heart, during two days, which the
r lay ill, attended him with the same dili-
e and tenderness, as if he had been his own
r.—Martin, though from a different motive,
equally attentive ; and resolved, however
nsive it might be to him, to await the event
e pedlar's sickness.

. The poor man, finding himself every hour
ing worse, on the second day of his illness,
mes was sitting by his bed-side, took him
y by the hand, and in a faint voice said,
nes, I feel I am not many hours for this
l ; my life is going from me apace, and I
shortly be borne to my long home. James,
re a good lad ; and had it pleased God to
me, we should not soon have parted ; but
lessed will be done."

. James could not speak for weeping, and
pedlar seeing him so much affected, said,
not grieve, my child, if you continue to be
st and good, God will raise you up a friend,
I am no more ; and as for me, I trust

I am going from a world of care and sorrow to a world of peace and joy."

60. James still wept, and in a broken voice said, he hoped that death was not so near apprehended. The pedlar shook his head for some moments seemed buried in thought. Then looking earnestly upon James, as if something lay upon his mind, which he wished to communicate, thus began :

61. "My child, said he, though my knowledge of you has been but of a short date, I am persuaded you are honest and upright. I have observed that you love God, and fear Him, and that pleasure, as the greatest misfortune that can attend you in this world. I have therefore placed upon you, in preference to all others, to place a trust, upon the performance of which your present peace of mind greatly depends.

62. "It is now," continued the pedlar, "forty years since the good Mayor of S——, for the service I spent my youth, lent me forty crowns to furnish this box. Since that time, I have travelled the country, and various successes have attended me. On the whole, God has prospered my endeavours.

63. "This," said he, taking a leather bag from a private pocket in his doublet, "contains the forty crowns, which are due my friend the Mayor. I have saved the moderate profits of my wares. I thank God, they are not the fruit of fraud and dishonest dealing.

64. I resign them, my child, into your hands, and solemnly enjoin you, as you value them,

g of heaven, when I am dead to deliver them to the mayor." James solemnly promised, that nothing but death should prevent his executing the trust, upon which the pedlar put the leathernurse, which contained the forty crowns into his hands, enjoining him not to acquaint any one with the affair, and especially to conceal it from Martin, of whose honesty he entertained but an indifferent opinion.

65. The next morning, the pedlar called for the master of the house, and after satisfying him of the trouble, and all the expenses of his illness, he requested him to be a witness, that he squeathed the contents of his box to the little lad who attended him, meaning James.

66. He then began to talk of his dissolution as a journey he was shortly to go ; and putting three pieces of money into the hands of the landlord, "As to my burial, said he, this will defray the expenses, and the care of it I leave to you, with whom Providence has ordered that I should finish my mortal existence.

67. "And now my dying advice to you all is, at you would fear God and seek his favour ; at you would choose that *good part*, which can never be taken away from you, and always be in an actual preparation for death." Soon after he had said this, he expired, and left them in great affliction for the loss of so good a friend.

68. As for the legacy, he would not suffer himself to think about it, till the funeral of his good friend was over ; but having followed him to the grave, and paid all due respect to his memory.

he took the key, and for the first time, the death of the pedlar, unlocked the signing, as the people of the house advised to make a sale of the goods, and afterwards determine in what manner to dispose of the

69. But what was the poor boy's consternation when instead of the articles it formerly contained he beheld the box filled only with a few stones ! This was an unexpected and severe appointment.

70. Sometimes he was inclined to suspect the people of the house, and at others his suspicion fell on Martin, who had refused to stay till the burial of the pedlar was over : but the poor boy knew not whom to accuse, nor where to go for redress.

71. All his consolation was, that the crowns which the pedlar had committed to his care, still remained in his possession, as also six shillings which he had received from his father the farmer ; but of this only a third remained after he had settled with the landlord ; so that he was to perform a journey of nearly sixty miles with no more than two shillings in his pocket. As to the forty crowns, he was deterred from selling whatever might be his necessity, not to falsify his word with the pedlar, but faithfully to deliver them to the mayor.

72. As his purse was now low, he travelled the first day without any refreshment, but as the blackberries and sloes, which he picked from the hedges, afforded him, and at night he contented to sup upon a penny roll and some milk.

73. The next day he pursued a course nearly as frugal, and having travelled till almost night, he found himself in danger of being overtaken by a violent storm, on an unfrequented heath. He pressed forward as fast as possible, and just sheltered himself in a little farm house at some distance, as it began to pour down violently with rain, and to thunder and lighten dreadfully.

74. James thought he could not do better than bargain with the farmer for a lodging in one of his barns, and accordingly agreed to give him three pence for the night.

75. While they were talking, a poor soldier, who had lost one leg, came to the gate, and asked the farmer to have compassion on a poor fellow, who had fought many battles in defence of Old England, and to give him a night's shelter in one of his out-houses.

76. The farmer, who was a mercenary churl, and thought as the night was so bad, he could make an advantage of the poor man's necessity, replied, "that if he could pay for sleeping in his barn, he might stay, otherwise he knew better than to harbour such vagabonds." "Truly, said the soldier, I have only four pence to carry me fifty miles, and if you will not for the sake of charity afford me shelter, I must even be content with a wet skin."

77. The farmer persisted in his resolution, and the poor fellow was turning on his heel to seek his fortune elsewhere, when James told the farmer, that sooner than see a poor fellow creature turned out in such a dreadful night,

though he could ill afford it, he would pay three pence himself, which he accordingly and the poor man, after expressing his thanks in the most grateful terms, shared the barn with his kind benefactor, where they both enjoyed the most pleasing reflections and peaceful sleep.

78. Early the next morning, James again started forward on his journey; but toward evening grew so fatigued, and so faint from the want of food which he had taken, that he sat down at the foot of a tree, and began seriously to reflect on his situation.

79. "Alas!" said he, the tears dropping from his eyes, "what will become of me! I have many long miles to travel, before I can deliver my trust to the mayor, and many more before I can reach London. My shoes are already worn out, and my feet are so blistered that I can scarcely stand, and how shall I ever be able to travel far without food.

80. "How happy would these forty crowns said James, make me? (taking the leather pouch out of his pocket.) But then I have given the word to restore them to the mayor; and they would do me ten times the service, for I am most likely rolling in plenty, while I am starving for want.

81. "Let me see—with these forty crowns could take the cottage which my poor mother lived in for so many years, and I dare answer for a trifle I could buy the piece of land adjoining it of farmer Jenkins.—Well, I could then *honest* Ralph to assist me in cultivating it,

the produce would perhaps make me one of the richest cottagers of our village.

82. "No one, said James, knows that I have these forty crowns—the pedlar is dead, and as to the Mayor, he will never think of inquiring after him, and if he should, nobody will be able to tell him that I have the crowns. Well, I am almost tempted to take them."

83. (Here James paused for some minutes, then resuming his reflection)—"But after all, said he, would these forty crowns make me happy, after I have broken my faith with the pedlar, and committed a dishonest action? No, though I could hide my crime from all the world, I cannot hide it from God. It will be known to him, and he will undoubtedly punish it.

84. "It is true, I am in greater want of this money than the Mayor, but that will not excuse me for taking that which is not my own. And yet these forty crowns, said he, looking at them, are very tempting—What will become of me after I have delivered them to the Mayor!

85. "As to London, I shall never reach it, and if I do, notwithstanding all that Martin has said, places may be very difficult to gain there, at least for a poor friendless boy like me.—What will become of me?—But after all, said he, what can befall me so dreadful as the displeasure of God!—

86. "I will look at these forty crowns no longer—I am sure money must be very dangerous to put such wicked thoughts into one's head.—I will trust in God, and endeavour to pursue my way to the Mayor. Whatever happens, I

shall be much easier when these crowns are of my possession."

87. Saying this, he rose and pursued his journey. He had not proceeded far, however, before a carriage with two footmen behind it approached.—James, who notwithstanding his fatigue, was still ready to oblige, without thinking what was to follow, ran and opened a gate which the carriage was to pass through, when a young lady in the coach, who had observed him, threw him a six-pence.

88. James, at first, could hardly believe his eyes. He picked it up with transport: for in his present condition, it seemed like manna sent from heaven. He hastened to the next village, where he procured some refreshment, and obtained a comfortable night's lodging under the roof of an hospitable farmer.

89. Next morning he again proceeded on his journey, in excellent spirits, resolving as he walked along, never more to distrust the goodness of God, who, in his great extremity, had sent him relief.—He travelled all that day, and a part of the next, and was beginning to grow very faint and weary, when a voice called to him out of a little cart that was passing.

90. James looked up and perceived it to be the poor soldier, for whom he had procured a lodging in the barn. The poor fellow expressed great joy to meet his little benefactor, and perceiving that he was extremely weary, jumped out of the cart, and begged the driver to permit that little boy, meaning James, to supply his place, telling him at the same time of the service that he had rendered him.

. The driver, who was equally pleased with the generosity of James, and the gratitude of the driver, consented to take them both into the cart, and they rode on together.

. On their way, the soldier informed James, that when they last parted, he was going fifty miles the contrary way, in pursuit of an captain, under whom he had formerly served, to procure a recommendation to Greenwich Hospital ; but that, on his way, he was informed that his old commander had removed to another part of the country, to which he was now go-

. The soldier said further, that being on his way, the honest driver, in compassion to his necessities, had offered to give him a lift as far as he went with his cart, and he added, that he felt himself doubly indebted to him for the service to his little friend.

. Nor was this all ; the poor fellow's purse had been recruited since he left James, and he positively insisted upon dividing it with him. " Well, thought James, a good turn is never lost : I assisted this poor soldier in his necessity ; and now, when I least expected it, he rendered me a service far greater."

Happily for James, the driver was going on a mile of the town where the Mayor resided, for he was so completely worn out with his journey, that this last twenty miles seemed to him than all that he had travelled before.

The hour of parting being come, James, expressing his hearty thanks to the driver, and the generous soldier, took a friendly

leave of them, and proceeded to the the Mayor lived.

96. Having inquired out the hour difficulty obtained admittance, on the shabbiness of his appearance, the leathern purse which contained crowns, and delivered them, in the pedlar to the Mayor.

97. The Mayor, who during ten heard no tidings of the pedlar, inquired after his old domestic, and asked James if he was related to him. James he was not; and modestly informed of the manner in which he became with the pedlar, of his death, and charge which he had given him to forty crowns to the owner.

98. The Mayor praised the honest pedlar, but much more did he admire the integrity of poor James: and it was only that he concealed his admiration reflected that a poor boy reduced to want, should nobly preserve his integrity, withstand so powerful a temptation; however, discover all he felt upon the

99. When James had ended his story, he asked him whether either of his parents were alive? James sighed and said, that he had no parents nor friends. No! said the Mayor, indeed for so good a boy.

100. At this instant news was brought by two countrymen, who had taken upon suspicion of committing a robbery, to the Mayor's hall. The Mayor ordered them to

: but what was the horror and astonishment James, when in the robber he discovered old friend and treacherous companion Mar-

01. One of the countrymen testified, that ing observed a variety of articles in the th's possession, which he had, a few weeks, seen in the box of an honest pedlar who ed at his house, and judging from the appearance of the lad, that he could not have purchased them, he was led to question him on the subject; and from his confusion and vague replies, he was persuaded that he did not come honestly by the goods; on which account he brought him before his honour.

02. The Mayor, who had just been informed of the legacy which the pedlar had left to him, and of the manner in which he had lost it, was persuaded that this was the very youth who had robbed him: he therefore immediately called James, who stood overwhelmed with horror and surprise in one corner of the room, to come forward and face the accused.

03. James advanced reluctantly, but Martin sooner observed him, than thinking it in his power to dissemble, he fell upon his knees before the Mayor, and confessed that whilst James was in the box, he had carried off the articles contained in the pedlar's box, and to prevent an early discovery, had placed stones in their stead.

04. James was astonished at the treachery of his old comrade, and the Mayor, after having made some observations on his baseness, turned to all present the noble conduct of

James, and then turning
*fused the forty crowns, an
esty, now my noble boy,
ward of it.* So saying
purse, containing the fo
hand, who, in a transp
threw himself at the fe
expressed his acknowled
terms.

105. The good Mayor
assured him, that this
what he intended to d
continued he, you hav
friends ; your virtue, m
you both in me ; for fre
take you under my prot

106. "But while I an
or, to reward virtue, let
guilt."—Saying this, he
seized and conveyed to
punishment of his crim
present happiness did
of the wretchedness of
himself at the feet of th
est agitation, and with te
don his unhappy friend

107. The Mayor at
but at length, overco
James, he yielded to his
he to Martin ; at the r
leave your punishment
stings of your own cor
your own disgrace, an
honest friend, may you

though guilt may flourish for a time, yet true and honesty are the most certain roads to happiness and honour."

108. Having said this, he dismissed Martin, overwhelmed with shame and disgrace: James, through the generosity of the Mayor and his diligence, obtained a liberal education; on the secretary of his patron dying, in a few years, James was thought capable of supplying place, which he did with so much honour and integrity, that he gained the esteem and approbation of all, and more especially of his generous patron; who during his life, loaded him with favours, and at his death, left him a considerable property, with which he purchased a little estate, about a mile from his native village, upon which he lived happily to the end of his days.

BLACK GILES THE POACHER.

With the history of the Widow Brown's Apple Tree.

1. Poaching Giles lived at the mud cottage, with the broken windows, stuffed with dirty rags, just beyond the gate, which divides the upper from the lower moor, in Somersetshire. You may know the house, at a good distance, by the jagged tiles on the roof, and the loose stones which are ready to drop out from the chimney.
2. As Giles had never learnt any thing that

was good, so he did not know the useful saying, "a stitch in time saves nine." did he reflect, that a short ladder, a tar, and half an hour's leisure time, prevented the ruin of his house, and and comfortable.

3. Besides this, Giles fell into the mistake, that a beggarly looking and filthy ragged children, raised most and of course drew most charity ; being as he was, in other things, his reckoning here ; for it is neatness, which draws the kindness of charitable, while they turn away from filth and laziness.

4. The common, on which Giles' is quite a deep marsh, in a wet winter, it looks green and pre. And when a gentleman travels the carriage, it would be very convenient, if one of the children would open the gate, as it would save them from getting off, which is not very people within the carriage.

5. But instead of one of these coming out as soon as they hear the wheel would be quite soon enough, what do, but set all his ragged brats, with matted locks, and naked feet and lay day upon a sand-bank, hard by the for the slender chance of what may be from travellers.

6. At the sound of a carriage, and of these little scare-crows start up

gate and all at once thrust out their hats and aprons ; and for fear this, together with the noise of their clamorous begging, should not sufficiently frighten the horses, they are very apt to let the gate slap full against you, before you are half way through, in their eager scuffle to snatch from each other the few half pence, which you may throw out to them.

7. Thus five or six little idle creatures, who might be earning a trifle by knitting at home : who might be useful to the public by working in the field ; and who might be learning to get their bread twenty honest ways, are suffered to lie about all day, in the hope of a few chance half-pence, which, after all, they are by no means sure of getting.

8. Indeed, when the neighbouring gentlefolks found out, that opening the gate was the family trade, they soon left off giving any thing. And I myself, though I used to take out a penny ready to give, had there been only one to receive it, when I see a whole family established in so beggarly a trade, quietly put it back again into my pocket, and give nothing at all.

9. Giles, to be sure, as his children grew older, began to train them to such other employments, as the idle habits they had learned very properly qualified them for. For as soon as they grew too big for the trade of begging at the gate, they were promoted to the dignity of thieving on the moor.

10 Among the many trades which Giles professed, he sometimes practised that of a rat-catcher ; but he was addicted to so many tricks

that he never followed the same track. Whenever he was sent for to a farm his custom was to kill a few of the old rats, taking care to leave a little stock of young alive sufficient to keep up the breed.

11. And where any barn was overstocked with rats, he used to borrow a few from thence, jump a neighbouring granary, which he had and he might have gone on till now, but he unluckily been caught, one evening, in a cage of young rats under Parson Wilson's door.

12. This worthy minister, Mr. Wilson, to pity the neglected children of Giles, as he blamed the wicked parents, had therefore, long been desirous of snatching of this vagrant family from ruin, and his hopes were bent on Dick, as the least knavery.

13. He had once given him a new pair of shoes, on his promising to go to church on Sunday; but no sooner had Rachel, the mother, got the shoes into her clutches, but she pawned them for a bottle of gin, and ordered a boy to keep out of the parson's sight, and to bring his marbles on Sundays, for the future, at the end of the parish and not near the church.

14. Mr. Wilson, however, picked up the boy, as he was one day loitering about behind his garden, in search of a hen. His mother having ordered him to bring a few eggs that night, by hook or by crook, Giles was resolved to have some pan-cake for supper.

15. Dick was just going to take to his heels, as usual, for fear the old story of the shoes should be brought forward ; but finding he could not get off, what does he do, but run into a little puddle of dirty water, which lay between him and the parson, that the sight of his naked feet might not bring on the dreaded subject.

16. Now it happened that Mr. Wilson was planting a little field of beans, so he thought this a good opportunity to employ Dick. He told him he had got some pretty easy work for him. Dick did as he was bid ; he willingly went to work, and began to plant his beans with dispatch and regularity, according to the directions given him.

17. While the boy was busily at work by himself, Giles happened to come by, having been walking round the back way, to look over the parson's garden wall, to see if there was any thing worthy climbing over for, on the following night. He spied Dick, and began to rate him for working for the Parson.

18. " What has he promised thee a day ?" said he, " little enough I dare say." " He is not to pay me by the day," said Dick, " but says he will give me so much when I have planted this peck, and so much for the next."

19. " Oh, ho ! that alters the case," said Giles—" One may indeed get a trifle by this sort of work.—Come, give me a handful of the beans. I will teach you how to plant, when you are paid for planting by the peck. All we have to do in that case is to dispatch the work as fast as we can : and as to the seed coming up or not,

that is no business of ours. At the rate goest on, thou wouldst not get sixpence to- Come along ; bury away."

20. So saying, he took his hat full o seed, and where Dick had been ordered one bean, Giles buried a dozen. So the were soon out though the ground was un ed. But cunning Giles knew this could : found out, till the time when the beans mig expected to come up ; "and then, Dick," he, "the snails and the mice may go sha the blame."

21. So saying, he sent the boy into the sonage to receive his pay, taking care : cure about a quarter of the beans for his use ; he put both bag and beans into hi pocket to carry home, bidding Dick tell Mr son, that he had planted the beans and lost th

22. The time of public worship, on the bath, was a season of harvest to Giles ar boys. Then the hens' nests were search stray duck was clapped under the frock, the in the neighbouring farm yards were picke and all the neighbouring pigeon houses thinned ; so that Giles used to boast to his that Sunday was to them the most profitabl in the week.

23. With her it was certainly the most rious day, as she always did her washin, ironing, on the Sunday morning, it beir she said, the only leisure day she had ; f other days, she went about the country, t fortunes, and selling dream-books, and w songs.

4. Neither her husband's nor her children's clothes were ever mended : and if Sunday, her day, had not come about once in a week, it kely they never would have been washed her.

5. You might, however, see her as you were g to church, smoothing her own rags, on her red cloak, which she always used for her ing cloth on Sundays, for her cloak when she elled, and for her blanket at night. Such a tched manager was Rachel.

3. Among her other articles of trade, one to make and sell peppermint, and other lled waters. These she had the cheap art aking, without labour and without expense : she made them without herbs, and without a

7. Her way was to fill so many quart bot-with plain water, putting a spoonful of mint-er in the mouth of each ; these she corked n with rosin, carrying to each customer a of real distilled water to taste, by way of ple.

8. This was so good, that her bottles were monly bought up, without being opened, if any suspicion arose, and she was forced to ork a bottle, she even then escaped detec-, by means of the few drops of distilled wa-lying on the top ; and she took care to get out each, before the bottle was opened a second e, and was too prudent ever to go twice to same house.

9. I think my readers are now so well ac-inted with this familv. that they will not ex-

pect to hear any great good, either of G himself, his wife Rachel, or any of the child am sorry to expose their tricks; but it is fault, not mine. If I pretend to speak people at all, I must tell the truth.

30. I am sure, if ~~for~~ ^{for} would but turn and mend, it would be a thousand times ^{per}er to me to write their histories; for it is ^{for}ort to tell of any body's faults. If ^{for}would but grow good, I should be glad ^{for}en tell of it; but till it really becomes so I ^{for}on describing it as it is.

31. As for Giles and his boys, I a old widow Brown has good reason to rer their dexterity. Poor woman! she has little bed of onions, in her neat and we garden; and many a rheumatism has she by kneeling down to weed them, in a dar notwithstanding the little flannel cloak, a bit of an old mat, which madam Wils her.

32. This poor woman made a great dea pendence upon her onions. She used carefully to treasure them up for her v store; for an onion makes a little brot relishing; it is many times, indeed the o voury thing, which poor people are able t

33. She also had a small orchard, cor about a dozen apple-trees, with which, in year, she has been known to make a co barrels of cider, which she sold to her la towards paying her rent, besides having keg, which she was able to keep back i *own drinking*

34. Well ! would you believe it ! Giles and his boys marked both onions and apples for their own. Indeed, a man that stole so many rabbits from the warren, was likely enough to steal onions for sauce.

35. One day, when the widow was abroad on a little business, Giles and his boys made a clear riddance of the onion bed ; and when they had pulled up every single onion, they then turned a couple of pigs into the garden, who tore up the bed in such a manner, that the widow, when she came home, had not the least doubt but that the pigs had been the thieves.

36. I wonder how any body can find in his heart, not to pity and respect poor widows. There is something so forlorn and helpless, in their condition, that methinks it is a call on every body, men, women and children, to do them all the kind services that fall in their way.

37. Surely their having no one to take their part, is an additional reason for kind hearted people not to hurt and oppress them. This, however, was the very reason which led wicked fellows to do this woman an injury.

38. It happened unluckily for this poor widow, that her cottage stood quite alone. On several mornings together, (for roguery many times gets up earlier than industry,) Giles stole regularly into her orchard, followed by his boys and his jack asses.

39. She was so deaf, that she could not hear the asses, if they had brayed ever so loud ; and this Giles trusted ; for he was very cautious of his rogueries, since he could not otherwise

have contrived to keep out of prison though he was almost always suspected, had seldom been taken up, and never punished.

40. The boys used to fill their backs with their asses, and then march off; and in their way to the town, where the apples were sold, they chanced to pass by one of the shopkeepers, who might be likely to suspect them; they then, all at once, began to shout, "buy my coal!—buy my sand."

41. Besides the trees in her orchard, the widow Brown had, in her small garden, a pear-tree particularly fine. It was a tree so tempting, and so lovely, that Gilead had watched it, with longing eyes, till they resolved on a plan for carrying off some fine fruit, in their bags.

42. But this was a nice point to manage; the tree stood directly under her chamber window, so that there was some danger, that she might spy them at the work. They therefore determined to wait till the next Sunday, when they knew she would not fail to be at church.

43. Sunday came, and during service Gilead attended to the execution of his wicked plan. It was a lone house, as I said before, and the rest of the Parish were safe at church. As soon as the tree was cleared, the boys were sent; the asses were whipt, the thieves were off, the coast was clear, and all was safe and quiet when the time the sermon was over.

44. Unluckily, however, it happened

his tree was so beautiful, and the fruit so fine, that the people, as they used to pass to and from church, were very apt to stop, and admire widow Brown's Redstreaks : and some of the farmers rather envied her, that in that scarce season, when they hardly expected to make a pie out of a large orchard, she was likely to make one from a single tree.

45. But to return to Giles, it seems, that in this affair, his covetousness had, for once, got the better of his caution. The tree was too completely stripped. The youngest boy, Dick, begged hard, that his father would leave the poor old woman enough for a few dumplings ; and when Giles ordered him to shake the tree, he did it so gently, that hardly any apples fell ; for which he got a good shake with the stick, with which the old man was beating down the apples.

46. The neighbours, on their return from church, stopped as usual, but it was not, alas ! to admire the apples, for apples there were none left : but to lament the robbery, and console the widow. Meantime the Redstreaks were safely lodged in Giles' hovel, under a few bundles of hay, which he had contrived to pull from the farmer's mow, the night before, for the use of his jack asses.

47. Such a stir, however, began to be made about the widow's apple tree, that Giles, who knew how much his character laid him open to suspicion, as soon as he saw the people safe in the church again, in the afternoon, ordered his boys to carry each a hatful of the apples, and

Sunday school
may now see the work-
gion."

58. One said, he should like to see Wilson's righteous one well whipped. He hoped he would be clapped in the for a young hypocrite as he was; while Giles, who thought to avoid suspicion, more violent than the rest, declared, hoped the young dog would be transplanted life.

59. Mr. Wilson was too wise, and to proceed against Tom, without full proof declared the crime was a very heavy one. He feared that heavy must be the proof. But Tom, who knew his own innocence, prayed to God, that it might be as the noon day, and his secret sins that night were very fervent.

60. Black Giles passed his night in a different manner. He set off, as it were, dark, with his sons and their joint property with their stolen goods. For as raised about the apples, he did not wish to keep them longer at home, but to go and sell them at the next town without leave, a lame colt could assist in carrying off his booty.

61. Giles and his eldest son went all the way, in thinking, that they were enjoying the profit of their robbery, would be whipped round the

, if not sent beyond sea. But little did they
; how soon the justice of Heaven would
take them for their crimes.

. The younger boy, Dick, who had naturally
der heart, though hardened by his long fa-
rity with sin, could not help crying, when
ought that Tom Price was like to be punish-
r a crime, which he himself had helped to
nit.

. He felt no shame about the robbery, for
id not been instructed in the great principles
ith and justice. And therefore, I suppose,
ould neither have felt much remorse about
ing an innocent boy ; but though utterly de-
of principle, he had some remains of natural
g, and of gratitude.

. Tom Price had often given him a bit of
own bread and cheese ; and once, when
was like to be drowned, Tom had jumped
he pond with his clothes on, and saved his
hen he was just sinking. The remembrance
this made his heart heavy, and drew tears
his eyes ; yet he said nothing.

. As he trotted along barefoot after the asses,
ard his father and brothers laugh at having
tted the godly ones ; and he grieved to think
poor Tom would suffer for their wicked-
yet fear kept him silent : They called
ulky dog, and lashed the asses till they

In the mean time, Tom Price kept up his
s, as well as he could. He worked hard
y, and prayed heartily night and morn-
"It is true," said he to himself, "I am

not guilty of this sin, but let th
amining myself, and truly rep
other sins ; for I find enough
though I thank God, I did not
ples."

67. At length Sunday came. ' to church, as usual, went in the school. As soon as he walked deal of whispering and laughing ; of the boys ; and he overheard th would have thought it ? This is it ! This is Parson Wilson's sob shan't have Tommy thrown in o we go to get a bird's nest, or gat a Sunday."

68. Giles' family had always k school ; for they had no desire to chism, or to read their bible. D sometimes wished to go, not th sense of sin, or inclination for ; thought if he could once read, b the world, and not be obliged to : ll his days.

69. Through the whole Satur could not sleep. He longed would be done to Tom. He be go to school, but he had not cou very cowardly : So on the Sund went and sat himself down un wall.

70. Mr. Wilson passed by. way to reject the most wicked, t every means to bring them over he pitied and prayed for them. ?

left off talking to Giles' sons ; but seeing sitting by himself, he once more spoke to , and desired him to leave off his vagabond and go with him into the school.

1. The boy hung down his head, but made answer. He did not, however, either rise up run away, or look sulky as he used to do. The minister, therefore, desired him once more to go into the school. "Sir," said the boy, "I can't go ; I am so big I am ashamed." "The more you are," said Mr. Wilson, "the less time have to lose."

2. "But, Sir," said Dick, "I can't read." "Learn," said the minister, "it is high time you should learn." "But I am ashamed," said the boy, "to begin to learn my letters." "The more," said Mr. Wilson, "is not in beginning to learn them, but in being contented never to learn them."

3. The boy then said, "that he was too old;" But Mr. Wilson told him, "that God looked at the heart, and not at the coat." "But I have no shoes and stockings." "So the worse ; I remember who gave you shoes and stockings ; (here Dick coloured ;) It is bad to want shoes and stockings ; but if you can go without shoes, at other times, you can certainly walk to school without them."

4. "But, Sir, the good boys will hate me, and won't speak to me." "Good boys hate nothing," said Mr. Wilson, "and as for their not speaking to you, to be sure they will not keep company, while you go on in your present courses ; but as soon as they see you wish

to reform, they will help you, and teach you so come along."—Here Mr. Wilson took dirty boy by the hand, and gently pulled him ward, kindly talking to him all the way.

75. How the whole school stared to see Giles come in ! No one, however, dared to what he thought. The business went on, Dick slunk into a corner, partly to hide his and partly to hide his sin ; for last Sunday's transaction sat heavy on his heart. Poor he little thought there was One saw him, sees all things, and from whose eye no hole or corner can hide the sinner.

76. It was the custom, in that school, for the master, who was a wise and good man, to lay down, in his pocket-book, all the events of the week, that he might turn them to some account in his Sunday's instructions ; such as any story in the newspaper, any account of people being drowned as they were out in a pleasure boat on Sundays, or any sudden death in the parish.

77. Many young people of the place, though they were not of the school, and their parents also, used to drop in for an hour, on Sunday, when they were sure to hear some profitable. The minister greatly approved this practice, and often called in himself, and was a great support to the master, and a great encouragement to the people.

78. The master had taken a deep conceit of the story of the Widow Brown's apple. He could not believe Tom Price was guilty, and *did he dare* to pronounce him innocent :

he resolved to turn the instructions of the present evening to this subject. He began thus :

79. "My dear boys, however light some of you may make of robbing an orchard, yet I have often told you there was no such thing as a little sin, if it be wilfully committed. I wish to explain to you also, that there is hardly ever such a thing as a single solitary sin. You know I teach you not merely to repeat the commandments, as an exercise for your memory, but as a rule for your conduct.

80. If you were to come here only to learn to read and spell, on a Sunday, I should think that was not employing God's day in a right manner. but I teach you to read, that you may, by this means, come to understand the bible and the catechism, so as to make every text in the one, and every question and answer in the other, to be fixed in your hearts, that they may bring forth fruit in your lives.

81. *Master.* How many commandments are there? *Boy.* Ten. *Master.* How many did that boy break, who stole Widow Brown's apples? *Boy.* Only one, Master; the eighth. *Master.* What is the eighth? *Boy.* Thou shalt not steal.

82. *Master.* And you are very sure this was the only one he broke? Now suppose I could prove to you, that he probably broke no less than six out of those ten commandments, which the great Lord of Heaven stooped down from his eternal glory to deliver to men: Would you not then think it a terrible thing to steal, whether

83. Yes, master, replied the said the master, I will now put the wicked boy has robbed Widow — (Here the eyes of every one on poor Tom Price, except the who fixed his on the ground.)

84. I accuse no one, conti
Tom Price is a good boy, and
the time of the robbery ; the
why I presume he is innocen
was, you allow that by stealin
broke the eighth commandme

85. *Boy.* Yes, master. .
day were these apples stolen
day. *Master.* What is the
ment? *Boy.* Thou shalt keep
day.

86. *Master.* Does that be
Sabbath day, who loiters in
he should be at church ; and
when he should be saying h
No, master. *Master.* What
break ? *Boy.* The fourth.

87. *Master.* Suppose this man who had sent him to church, had obeyed them by not going, would he be obeying the fifth commandment? The fifth commandment says, *thou shalt honour thy father and thy mother.*

88. This was the only part which poor Dick Giles' heart for he knew that he had disobeyed his father, alas! was still wicked and had brought him to con-

wretched comfort was this! The master on.

. Suppose this boy earnestly coveted this ; though it belonged to another person ; that be right? *Boy.* No, master, for tenth commandment says, Thou shalt not

. *Master.* Very well ; here are four of ; positive commands already broken.—

do you think thieves ever scruple to wicked words? *Boy.* I am afraid not, r.

. Here Dick Giles was not so hardened, but he remembered how many curses had passed between him and his father, while they were ; the bags, and he was afraid to look up. he master went on.

. I will go one step further. If the thief, l his other sins, has added that of accusing innocent to save himself—if he should break inth commandment by *bearing false witness st a harmless neighbour*, then SIX COMMANDS ARE BROKEN FOR AN APPLE. But if it therwise, if Tom Price should be found ; 'tis not his good character shall save him. ll shed tears over him, but punish him f

. “No, that you shan’t,” roared out Dick , who sprung from his hiding place, fell on nees and burst out a crying. “Tom Price good a boy as ever lived ; it was father stole the apples.

. It would have done your heart good to seen the joy of the master, the modest es of Tom Price, and the satisfaction of

very honest boy in the school. All sh~~h~~ands with Tom, and even Dick got some p~~o~~ion of pity.

94. I wish I had room to give my readers moving exhortation which the master gave this occasion. But while Mr. Wilson left guilty boy to the management of the master, thought it became him as a minister and a mag~~is~~trate to go to the extent of the law in punish the father.

95. Early on Monday morning, therefore, sent to apprehend Giles. In the mean time, Wilson himself was sent for to a garden house, two miles distant, to attend a man w~~h~~o was dying. This was a duty to which all oth~~er~~ gave way in his mind.

96. He set out directly, but what was his p~~r~~prise, on his arrival, to see, in a little bed, on floor, poaching Giles, lying in all the agon~~y~~ death! Jack Weston, a poor young man, w~~h~~o Giles had once very much injured, was kne~~el~~ed by him, offering him some broth, and talki~~ng~~ him in the kindest manner.

97. Mr. Wilson begged to know the m~~o~~ of all this, and Jack Weston spake as fo~~ll~~ow~~s~~ "At four this morning, as I was walking mow, passing under the high wall of this I heard a most pitiful moaning. The~~y~~ came, the more dismal it grew. At las~~t~~ should I see but poor Giles, groaning a~~nd~~ gling under a quantity of bricks and st~~ill~~ not able to stir.

98. "The day before, he had marked a s~~pot~~et, on this old wall, and resolved t~~o~~

he thought it might do as well to catch par-
ges, as to preserve cherries ; so, sir, stand-
on the very top of this wall, and tugging
all his might, to loosen the net from the
is which fastened it, down came Giles, net,
and all ; for the wall was gone to decay.

9. " It was very high indeed, and poor
s not only broke his thigh, but has got a ter-
blow on his head, and is bruised all over
a mummy. On seeing me, sir, poor Giles
l out, " O Jack ! I did try to ruin thee, and
thou wilt be revenged, by letting me lie
and perish."

10. " God forbid, cried I ; thou shalt now
Giles, what sort of revenge a christian
s. So, sir, I sent off the gardener's boy to
a surgeon, while I ran home, and brought
y back this bit of a hammock, which is in-
my own bed, and put Giles upon it. We
lifted him up, bed and all, as tenderly as
could, and brought him in here.

11. " My wife has just come, and brought
a drop of nice broth, and now, sir, as I
done what I could for this poor perishing
, it was I who took the liberty to send for
to come to try to help his poor soul, for the
or says he can't live."

12. Mr. Wilson could not help saying to
elf, " Such an action as this is worth a vo-
of comments on that precept of our bless-
laster, " Do good to them that hate you."
s' dying groans confirmed the sad account
ton had just given. The poor wretch could

neither pray himself, nor attend to the
ter.

103. He could only cry out, "Oh, si
will become of me? I don't know how
pent. Oh my poor wicked children! sir,
bred them all up in sin and ignorance.
mercy on them, sir; let me not meet
the place of torment to which I am going
languished a few days, and died in the
misery.

104. Except the minister and Jack
no one came to see poor Giles, beside
Price, who had been so sadly wronged.
Tom often brought him his own rice ar
or apple dumpling, and Giles, ignorant
praved as he was, often cried out,
thought now there must be some truth
gion, since it taught even a boy to deny
and to forgive an injury.

105. Mr. Wilson, the next Sunday,
moving discourse on the danger of what a
ed *petty offences*. This, together with th
death of Giles, produced such an effect, t
ny sinners were hopefully brought to repe
and became serious and good men.

THE YOUNG COTTAGER.

1. On a warm Summer's day, as Rose,
girl, sat singing at her wheel, in the s
the wood, she heard a deep groan amo
trees—She stopped her wheel and for a

ed ; but all being still, she went on with her

In a few minutes she again heard a groan, a person in distress. She started up, and towards the place, to discover the object of the sound : but having looked about time without success, she returned to her

Again the sound saluted her ears, and she vied to find the cause. Pursuing a narrow, ing path, she at length beheld an old man, ie agonies of distress, stretched on the ad, and his head supported by the roots of e.

The tender-hearted Rose hastened to him, tooping down, attempted to raise his head er lap : upon which the poor man faintly e the word *water*. Rose guessed by this, he wanted drink, and ran to her father's cot- where she took her bowl of new milk, and ght it to the poor suffering old man. He drank y, and was soon refreshed, so as to be able ank Rose for her kindness.

Rose then asked him, how he came to be in situation ? He replied, that on his way from -York to Hartford, he was seized with a vio ever, and lay sick for several days, in which all his money was spent.

After this, his landlord would no longer take of him, and being obliged to travel, before id gained his strength, he was soon fatigued, lmost fainted, being just able to crawl into hade of the woods.

When the compassionate girl heard this

story, she ran home, and b
bread, which was all her fat
ed. This she softened wit
down by his side, fed him wit

8. He soon revived, so as
to a shed, which some work
the neighbourhood. Here h
straw, while Rose went to inf
had just come home.

9. Rose entreated her fath
old man, and give him a bed
well enough to go on his jou
a bed," said her father, "t
thing, indeed! What will the
own family becomes a charge
we are poor enough already,
than we are able to give it."

10. "But," said Rose, "
to do all the good we can.
are in distress." "Yes, y
"he should preach that
folks have nothing to giv
can maintain ourselves, ar
town."

11. "But father," sai
us but little to let the r
a few nights in the ho
Scripture says, that Gc
what we give to the poo

12. "O fie, child,"
"let me hear no more
We are poor enough
kind girl burst into te
sir, if you could only

is, you would be glad to afford him a little relief." "Peace, girl," said her father, "and your porridge."

3. Rose, seeing she could not prevail on her father to lend the man any assistance, resolved to do what she could herself.

therefore eat but little of her porridge ; when her father was gone out, she carried some to the poor man in the shed.

4. She found him in a calm sleep, and not willing to wake him, she sat down by his side, till he awoke, and then kindly presented him a little refreshment. This would not satisfy his friendly heart ; but seeing him exposed to the damp air of the evening, she went and brought him some clothes to cover him in the night.

5. In this manner, the good girl provided for the poor sick man, by giving him a share of her own portion of food, every day, till he had recovered, and was able to pursue his business.

6. When he departed, he shed many tears, and blessed her a thousand times for her kindness. He said he could express his gratitude only by words, and tears of joy ; but he was sure heaven would reward her.

7. This generous conduct of Rose was soon reported in the neighbouring villages, and every one was pleased and delighted with it. In a few years her amiable behaviour made her the admiration of all who knew her ; and a wealthy neighbouring farmer, being charmed with her virtues, gave her his heart, his hand, and his fortune.

18. Thus was Rose raised from poverty her virtuous and good conduct, and now in wealth and plenty, the joy of her husband and the pattern of her sex.

THE MISTAKE.

1. One day, a poor woman, encouraged by great fame of Cardinal Farnese's generosity, came into the hall of the Cardinal, with her only daughter, a beautiful girl of twelve years of age.

2. When her turn came to be heard, among the crowd of petitioners, the cardinal, discerning the marks of an extraordinary modesty in her face and manners, as also in her daughter, encouraged her to tell her wants freely.

3. She blushed, and with tears addressed him: "My lord, I owe for the rent of my house five crowns, and such is my misfortune, that I have not wherewithal to pay it. What I desire of your lordship is, that you would please to interpose your authority, and protect me from the violence of a cruel man, until by my honest industry, I can procure the money for him."

4. The Cardinal, moved with admiration of the woman's virtue and modesty, bid her have good courage. He then immediately wrote a billet, and giving it into her hand, "Go," he said to my steward, with this paper, and he will deliver thee five crowns to pay thy rent."

5. The poor woman, overjoyed, returned

Cardinal a thousand thanks, went directly to the steward, and gave him the note, which when he had read, he counted her out fifty crowns.

6. She, astonished at the meaning of it, and finding this was only the steward's trick to try her honesty, refused to take more than five, saying, that she asked of the Cardinal no more, and she was sure it was a mistake.

7. On the other side, the steward insisted on the master's order, not daring to call it in question : But all the arguments he could use were sufficient to prevail on her to take more than five crowns.

8. Wherefore, to end the controversy, the steward offered to go back with her to the Cardinal, and refer it to him. When they came before the prince, and he was fully informed of the business, "It is true," said he, "I mistook in giving fifty crowns ; give me the paper, and I will rectify it."

9. Therefore, he wrote again, saying this to the woman, "So much candour and virtue deserve a recompense ; here I have ordered you five hundred crowns ; what you can spare of it, set up as a dowry, to give to your daughter in marriage.

As children sometimes want relief from usual studies in school, they may exercise themselves in committing to memory the following pieces.

THOMSON'S PRAYER.

Father of Light and Life—thou Good
O teach me what is good ; teach me to
Save me from folly, vanity and vice—
From every low pursuit—and feed my soul
With knowledge, conscious peace, and virtue
Sacred, substantial, never fading bliss

UPON A WATCH.

Little monitor, by thee,
Let me learn what I should be ;
Learn the round of life to fill,
Useful, and progressive still.
Thou canst gentle hints impart,
How to regulate the heart :
When I wind thee up at night,
Mark each fault and set thee right
Let me search my bosom too,
And my daily thoughts review ;
Mark the movements of my mind,
Nor be easy when I find
Latent errors rise to view,
Till all be regular and true.

A MORNING HYMN.

Arise my soul, with rapture rise,
And fill'd with love and praise, adore
The awful Sovereign of the skies,
Whose mercy lends me one day more

And may this day, indulgent Power,
Not idly pass, nor fruitless be ;
But may each swiftly flying hour
Advance my soul more nigh to thee.
O ! deign to lend a favouring ear,
When I, poor mortal, pray :
In boundless goodness deign to hear,
Nor cast me from thy face away.
Then let me serve thee all my days,
And may my zeal with years increase ;
For pleasant, Lord, are all thy ways,
And all thy paths are paths of peace.

RELIGION.

O blest Religion, heavenly fair,
Thy kind, thy healing power,
Can sweeten pain, alléviate care,
And gild each gloomy hour.
Thy bright, thy sacred lamp alone
Unerring points the way,
Where happiness forever shines,
With unpolluted ray ;
To regions of eternal peace,
Beyond the starry skies ;
Where pure, sublime and perfect joys,
In endless prospect rise.
Then let my heart confess thy power,
And find the sweet relief.
To brighten every painful hour,
And soften every grief.

INVOCATION TO

Sleep, downy sleep, come
Tir'd with beholding vanity
Welcome, sweet sleep, that
The toils and follies of the
On thy soft bosom will I lie,
Forget the world, and learn
Let Israel's watchful Shepherd
The tents of angels round

A MIDNIGHT H

To thee, all-glorious, ever blest
I consecrate this silent midnight
While solemn darkness covers
And all things, wrap'd in gentleness
Unwearied let me praise thy love
And every thought with gratitude
For the rich mercies which thou givest
Health to my flesh, and comfort
May my prayers before thy throne
An humble, but accepted sacrifice
And when thou shalt my weary soul
And to my body grant a soft repose
May my ethereal guardian kin
His wings, and from the temple
Grant of celestial light some portion
To bless my sleep, and sanctify

THE FALL OF THE LEAF.

See the leayes around us falling
Dry and wither'd to the ground,
Thus to thoughtless mortals calling,
In a sad and solemn sound :

Sons of Adam once in Eden,
While he was he blighted fell,
Hear the lecture we are reading,
'Tis alas ! the truth we tell.

Virgins much, too much presuming,
On your boasted white and red,
View us, late in beauty blooming,
Number'd now among the dead.

Gripping misers, nightly waking,
See the end of all your care,
Fled on wings of our own making,
We have left our owners bare.

Sons of honour; fed on praises,
Fluttering high in fancied worth,
Lo ! the fickle air that raises,
Brings us down to present earth.

Learned Sophs, in systems jaded,
Who for new ones daily call,
Cease, at length, by us persuaded,
Every leaf must have a fall.

Youth, tho' yet no losses grieve you,
Gay in health, and manly grace,
Let no cloudless skies deceive you,
Summer gives to autumn place.

Venerable sires, grown hoary,
Hither turn the unwilling eye,
Think amidst your falling glory,
Autumn tells a winter nigh.

Yearly in our course returning,
Messengers of shortest stay,
We repeat the solemn warning,
Heaven and earth will pass away.

On the tree of life eternal
Man, let all thy hopes be lay'd,
Which alone, forever vernal,
Bears those leaves that never fade.

THE HEAVENLY SHEPHERD.

The Lord my pasture shall prepare,
And feed me with a shepherd's care ;
His presence shall my wants supply,
And guard me with a watchful eye ;
My noon-day walks he shall attend,
And all my midnight hours defend.

When in the sultry glebe I faint,
Or on the thirsty mountain pant,
To fertile vales and dewy meads,
My weary wandering steps he leads
Where peaceful rivers soft and slow
Amid the verdant landscape flow.

Though in the paths of Death I tro
With gloomy horrors overspread,
My steadfast heart shall fear no ill
For thou, O Lord, art with me still
Thy friendly hand shall give me aid
And guide me through the dreadf

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